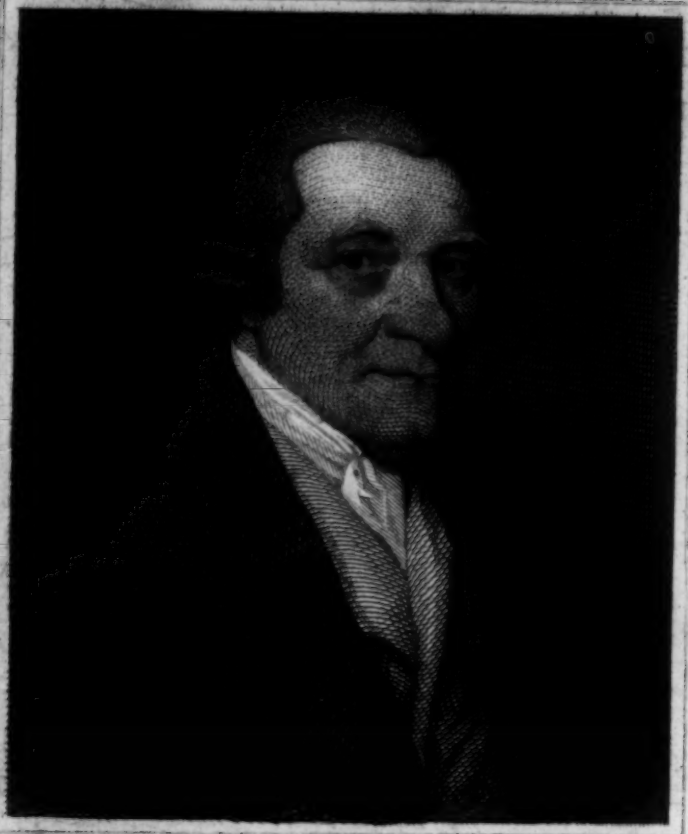

WILLIAM CHARNLEY,

BOOKSELLER

Newcastle upon Tyne.

Born in 1727. Died in 1803.

*Engraved by J. Ranson, from a Miniature by Murphy taken Æ. 72.*

# A SELECT

# COLLECTION

OF

MORNING AND EVENING

DEVOTIONS;

PROPER FOR THE USE OF FAMILIES,

AS WELL AS

FOR ONE PERSON IN PRIVATE.

EXTRACTED FROM

Biſhop GIBSON, Biſhop WILSON, the AUTHOR of the Great Importance of a Religious Life, and from NELSON's Practice of true Devotion.

---

NEWCASTLE:

Printed by S. HODGSON, for W. CHARNLEY, in the Groat-Market.

M.DCC.LXXXVIII.

BODLEIAN
14 JUN 1946
LIBRARY

# ADVERTISEMENT.

THE *Editor's intention in this little publication is, to put a collection of rational devotions into the hands of the lower claſs of people, at a ſmall expence, and to encourage perſons of opulent fortunes to purchaſe a number of them to diſtribute among their poor neighbours; being ſatisfied, that nothing would contribute more to the reformation of the preſent age, than the conſtant practice of the neceſſary duty of prayer.*

*William Charnley*

1788

TO THE

# INHABITANTS

OF THE

# PARISH OF *LAMBETH.*

MY BRETHREN,

HAVING drawn up for your uſe ſuch a form of *Morning* and *Evening Prayers* as I conceive to be proper in your families, I now put it into your hands; together with an earneſt exhortation to the practice of family devotion. It hath pleaſed the providence of God to commit to me the care of your ſouls; and as I am obliged, in a peculiar manner, to deſire and endeavour the ſalvation of them, ſo I know nothing that will forward it more than the exerciſe of daily devotion in your families.

The many benefits that will accrue to you and to your families from this godly practice, are plainly ſet down in the following exhortation; which

I beſeech you to read and conſider ſeriouſly. And when you have read it, and ſeen the excellent ends and uſes of family devotion; conſider farther, how ill it becomes any Chriſtian to ſuffer himſelf and his family to live in the daily neglect of a duty, the daily practice of which would ſo greatly conduce to the ſaving of their ſouls.

I conſider that many of the families under my care, are ſuch as live by the labour of their hands, and have not much time to ſpare; and therefore I took care to comprehend the proper matter, in both the prayers, in as ſhort a compaſs as might be; ſo ſhort, that the longeſt of them may be decently read to a family, in little more than half a quarter of an hour: And they muſt be very indifferent Chriſtians who can grudge God and their ſouls ſo ſmall a portion of their time; not conſidering how plentifully it would be made up by the comfort and benefit of that bleſſing which our prayers ſecure to us. When men are not inclined to exerciſes of this nature, it is eaſy to find pretences and excuſes to avoid them; but if there be firſt a willing mind, time and opportunity will ſeldom be wanting; and to bring men to

a willing mind, it ſhould be remembered, that ſuch excuſes will only ſerve them in this world.

This exerciſe of the morning and evening prayer, where families have lived in the neglect of it, may appear ſomewhat ſtrange at the beginning, as all things do that are new or unuſual. But if parents and maſters would ſettle their hours of prayer, and oblige as many of their family to be preſent as conveniently may, it would, in a little time, appear as ſtrange to omit them; and the ſervice of God would be reckoned, as in all Chriſtian families it ought, a neceſſary part of every day's buſineſs.

I am aware, that extraordinary occaſions ſometimes will happen, which may make it neceſſary to omit morning or evening prayer in the family, when, perhaps, ſome one member of that family may be at leiſure for it. I am alſo afraid that there will be ſome maſters and fathers ſo void of all religion, as to take no care of ſettling this godly practice in their families; nay ſome may be ſo very wicked as even to hinder and forbid it; when yet a wife, a child, or a ſervant, may be religiouſly inclined, and deſirous to perform their duty in private. Upon

which conſiderations, I have fitted theſe two family prayers for the uſe of one ſingle perſon, and to that end have printed them apart; foreſeeing, that if the many changes which are neceſſary to fit public prayer for private uſe, were to be made by particular perſons in the act of praying, it would be a great diſturbance to their attention and devotion.

I am alſo aware, that children and ſervants will ſometimes be unavoidably hindered from attending the family hours of prayer; and therefore, that they may not remain ſtrangers to devotion, and that the practice of family prayer may be provided for in every part, I have thought it proper to add two ſhorter forms, which are ſuited to the reſpective conditions of children and ſervants; who, if they cannot ordinarily be preſent at the prayers of the family, nor be always at leiſure to uſe the larger forms in private, ſhould be often admoniſhed by parents and maſters, that they fail not, at leaſt, to uſe the ſhorteſt forms conſtantly before they lie down to reſt, and as ſoon as they riſe again.

As it may be neceſſary, on ſome extraordinary occaſions, to omit prayers

in the family; ſo at other times, and eſpecially on the Lord's Day, there will be more leiſure than the bare performance of this office requires.—Which leiſure ought to be employed in reading to the family ſome plain and eaſy portions of holy ſcriptures, or other books of piety and religion, and in catechiſing ſuch of the children and ſervants who need it.

Although a maſter or miſtreſs ſhall (as becomes their character and ſtation) take to themſelves the office of reading prayers to the reſt, yet it may not be amiſs to train up ſome other of the family to be able to perform it decently, that in caſe of their indiſpoſition, or unavoidable abſence, the duty may not be omitted, and by degrees forgotten.

You will obſerve, that each of the two prayers for morning and evening is divided into ſeveral branches; each branch being a ſhorter prayer, in the manner of a collect, and containing one diſtinct head of the ſeveral matters for which a Chriſtian is bound to pray. And I choſe this method, becauſe, in my opinion, it keeps the thoughts more diſtinct than they can well be kept in one long continu d

prayer; and if they happen to wander, the ſolemn concluſion of one prayer, with the entrance upon another, and the part which every one preſent has in ſaying *Amen* to each, is a good means to awaken the attention, and to recal the thoughts to their proper work.

May the good ſpirit of God ſtir up every family under my charge to this practice of daily devotion, and continually aid and aſſiſt you in it; that thereby obtaining daily ſupplies of grace, and always living in his fear and obedience, you may give me cauſe to bleſs him for making me in any meaſure the inſtrument of your ſpiritual good in this world, and may ſecure to yourſelves an eternity of happineſs in the next. Which is, and always will be, the earneſt prayer of,

*Your affectionate*

*Brother and Paſtor*,

New-year's-day,
1745.

Edmund Gibſon.

AN

# EXHORTATION

TO

# FAMILY PRAYER.

PRAYER is the ſervice that we owe to Almighty God, as he is our Creator and preſerver, and we his creatures, who depend upon him for the comforts and neceſſaries of body and ſoul. Which ſervice is not only moſt reaſonable in itſelf, as it is an humble acknowledgment of God's dominion and ſovereignty over us; but is in many places of ſcripture expreſsly enjoined by Chriſt and his Apoſtles, as a neceſſary condition, a ſure means of having our wants ſupplied. Our Saviour (*Matth.* vii. 7.) makes our aſking the only means of our receiving; *Aſk, and it ſhall be given you; ſeek, and ye ſhall find.* And St *James* expreſsly ſaith, (*James* iv. 2.) that *we have not, becauſe we aſk not*; and St *Paul*'s precept is,

(*Phil.*

(*Phil.* iv. 6.) that *in every thing by prayer and ſupplication, with thankſgiving, we let our requeſts be made known unto God.*

Now the reaſon why God requires us to pray to him for his bleſſing and aſſiſtance, is not, that he wants to be informed what our neceſſities are; for he underſtands them much better than we ourſelves, and as our Saviour ſpeaks, (*Matt.* vi. 8.) *knoweth what things we have need of before we aſk him.* But the deſign of making prayer a religious ordinance, and of obliging Chriſtians to aſk that they may receive, is to preſerve upon their minds a conſtant ſenſe of their dependence upon God, and of their manifold obligations to him; that ſo theſe daily acknowledgements of the Divine power and goodneſs, may keep up in creatures a due fear and love of their Creator, and an habitual reverence and obedience to him and his laws.

From hence appears the reaſonableneſs and neceſſity of frequent prayer; both in regard to the daily wants of our ſouls and bodies, which God hath no where promiſed to ſupply, but upon our earneſt prayer to him; and alſo becauſe the cares and pleaſures of this world are very apt to make us for-

get

get the things of the next life, unleſs an heavenly temper, and a ſenſe of God's being and goodneſs be preſerved upon our ſouls by the exerciſe of frequent prayer; which is a converſing with God, and the neareſt communication we can have with him as long as we continue in this world.

The Apoſtle commands us (1 *Theſſ.* v. 17.) *to pray without ceaſing*; and (*Col.* iv. 2.) *to continue in prayer, and watch in the ſame;* and (*Col.* iv. 12.) he ſpeaks of *labouring fervently in prayer:* from all which we learn that this ſervice muſt be performed by Chriſtians, frequently and earneſtly. We read in Scripture (*Acts* iii. 1.) of the *hours of prayer;* and we find particularly, (*Pſa.* lv. 17. *Dan.* vi. 10. that it was the practice of *David* and *Daniel*, two eminently good and holy men, to pray to God *three times in a day.*

As to the public ſervice of the church, and the times of attending, that every Chriſtian is to be governed by the orders and cuſtoms of the place and nation in which he lives, and is bound in duty to attend to it, and to join with his fellow-chriſtians in praying for their common neceſſities, as oft as health and buſi-

neſs

neſs will give him leave, and more eſpecially on the Lord's day, which is ſet apart for that end.

But as to that which I am now ſpeaking of, namely, *private prayer*, whether of ſingle perſons or families; although there is no expreſs and poſitive precept how many times in a day it ſhall be performed, yet I think no perſon or family can be accounted religious who do not perform their duty of praying to God, at leaſt, in the *morning* and *evening*. A true ſpirit of piety and devotion will move private Chriſtians, who have time and leiſure, to retire to prayer at other hours alſo; eſpecially when they find extraordinary occaſions for the comfort and aſſiſtance of God. But I inſiſt upon prayer in the *morning* and *evening* as that which is not only reaſonable in itſelf, but may alſo be made to ſuit the condition and buſineſs of moſt perſons and families, if they be but religiouſly diſpoſed, and have hearts willing and deſirous to pray to God.

In the *morning* when they ariſe from reſt, and before they enter upon their daily buſineſs, what can become Chriſtians more, than to fall down before God, to thank and praiſe him for the preſervation of the paſt night, and to beg

beg his bleſſing upon the buſineſs of the following day; and his protection to body and ſoul, amidſt the dangers and temptations of a wicked world? Again, in the *evening*, after they return from their worldly buſineſs and converſation, and before they go to reſt, can any thing be more proper for devout and ſerious Chriſtians, than humbly to acknowledge the goodneſs of God, and to make confeſſion of their own ſins and unworthineſs; and then, upon their ſincere repentance, and humble truſt in his mercy, to implore the continuance of his favour and protection, eſpecially the following night?

They who can live in the daily neglect of ſo reaſonable a ſervice, and can lie down and riſe again without thinking of God, and go about the buſineſs of their lives, without imploring his direction and bleſſing; ſuch perſons can have very little religion, but may rather be ſaid *to live without God in the world.* By the omiſſion of this part of their duty, it comes to paſs, that they ſeldom have it in their minds either that there is ſuch a being as God, or that they live under his providence, or that he has given them laws to walk by, and will require an ac-

account in another world how they have obſerved them. And as no perſon, who has not theſe and the like thoughts frequently upon his mind, can be ſaid to think or live like a Chriſtian; ſo ſuch thoughts can be very little upon the mind of any perſon who lives in an habitual neglect of this duty of *morning* and *evening prayer* For if men think not of theſe things at the moſt ſeaſonable times for it, before they begin their work, and after they have ended it, it is not likely that they will fall into ſuch thoughts in the midſt of their buſineſs or pleaſures.

It is to be feared that there are too many perſons and families, who are ſunk into this unthinking ſtate, and this habitual forgetfulneſs of Amighty God: Which being a condition ſo dangerous to their ſouls, we, who have the care of ſouls, are bound to admoniſh them of their danger, and to exhort them earneſtly to the proper and effectual remedy; which is, this daily addreſſing themſelves to God; and, as it were, converſing with him in prayer. The time it will take up is very ſmall; but the benefit which it will bring, is exceeding great; no leſs than the entitling ourſelves to the conſtant

ſtant aſſiſtance and protection of God, and the keeping us in a daily preparation for heaven. And ſurely no perſon who calls himſelf a Chriſtian, and doth in any degree deſire to live as becomes the Goſpel of Chriſt, can be unwilling to enter upon a practice which will be the means of gaining ſuch valuable benefits to body and ſoul, eſpecially when that which will procure theſe benefits is a work ſo eaſy and reaſonable as the lifting up our hearts to God for ſo ſhort a ſpace, before and after the buſineſs of this world.

They have ſeen, by what has been hitherto ſaid of family devotion, that this is a very reaſonable and eaſy duty; and that the daily neglect of it is the ready way to loſe all ſenſe of God and religion. The conſiderations which I ſhall add, as a further inducement to the daily performance of it, will ſhew them that it is not only a ſure preſervative againſt that forgetfulneſs of Almighty God, but alſo an excellent help towards their growth and improvement in grace and goodneſs.

To make them truly ſenſible of this, let them conſider the following heads.

I. The great weakneſs and infirmity

of body and ſoul, and the manifold dangers with which both are encompaſſed: that the body is perpetually liable to diſeaſes within, and accidents without; and the ſoul always beſet with the temptations of the world, the fleſh and the devil. Now our only ſecurity againſt theſe dangers, is God's protection to defend the body, and his aſſiſting grace to preſerve the ſoul; and as there is no other way to obtain his protection and aſſiſtance againſt theſe dangers but our prayers, ſo the dangers being daily, our prayers muſt be daily too.

And the only ſure way to keep up daily devotion, is for every family to fix and appoint for that end the two moſt convenient parts of the day, namely, morning and evening. For, except the times of doing it be fixed and certain, the duty will be either wholly neglected and forgotten, or at beſt, there will be many pretences to omit it. Whereas, when the times of prayer are ſettled in a family, they are reckoned before-hand, and all other buſineſs is laid and contrived accordingly; ſo that by a little practice, morning and evening prayer is accounted a neceſſary part of the buſineſs

neſs of the day, and no more to be omitted or forgotten than the proviſion for food, raiment, and other conveniencies of life. The members of any family who have been thus accuſtomed to daily prayer, as the only ſure means of obtaining God's daily bleſſing, will be afraid to lie down at night, or go abroad in the morning, without firſt having made themſelves ſure of his protection and aſſiſtance, by joining with their brethren in prayer; or, where that cannot be conveniently done, by their own private devotions; or by both, where there is leiſure and opportunity for both.

II. It is a further encouragement to the beginning and carrying on this godly practice in families, that our Saviour Chriſt has, in an eſpecial manner, promiſed his preſence with them. For, conſidering the circumſtances of that promiſe in the xviii*th* of St *Matt.* (verſes 19, 20.) it may be more ſtrictly and immediately applied to family prayers; *I ſay unto you, that if* two *of you ſhall agree on earth, as touching any thing that they ſhall aſk, it ſhall be done for them of my Father who is in Heaven. For where* two *or* three *are gathered together in my name, there am I in the*

*midſt of them.* Without doubt Chriſt is ready to aſſiſt and anſwer the devout prayers of good men, in what place, or at what time ſoever they are made; but the joint prayers of a family muſt be yet more acceptable and more powerful, as they are ſent up with a unity of hearts and ſouls; which is ſo becoming among Chriſtians, and eſpecially among brethren and relations, and is withal ſo pleaſing in the ſight of God.

III. The practice of daily prayer ſettles in families a face and ſpirit of religion; ſo as no member thereof can wholly forget God and another world, while they are every day reminded of both. By this, children are trained from their infancy to an uſe and habit of devotion; and ſervants are ſure of due time and opportunity to ſerve God every day. For fathers and mothers, maſters and miſtreſſes, are enjoined by God to take care of the ſouls as well as the bodies of their children and ſervants; and as it is their duty, ſo may it be their great comfort, to afford them this daily means of becoming and continuing the ſervants and children of God. Hereby they plant in their hearts a true ſenſe of piety and devotion;

tion; and this prepares and diſpoſes them, when themſelves come to be parents and governors, to train up their children and ſervants to the ſame method of daily devotion. And ſo they who ſettle and keep up in their families this practice of morning and evening prayer, take the true and effectual way, both to preſerve in their own houſes a ſpirit of piety and religion, and alſo to convey that religious ſpirit to future generations.

IV. Daily prayer in a family is a great check and reſtraint upon any member of it, who may be inclined to ſin and vice. It makes him remember, whether he will or no, that there is a God and another world, and that they who would be happy hereafter, muſt heartily uſe their own endeavours, and beg the aſſiſtance of Almighty God, that they may live ſoberly and righteouſly here. This is the great end and deſign of all our prayers; and though perſons who are viciouſly inclined, may not inwardly join with their brethren in prayer; yet if they be but preſent, they muſt often conſider that what the reſt are doing, is in order to a life after this; and that they, as well as their brethren, have ſouls to

take care of; and, therefore, that it cannot be ſafe for them to live in ſins, from which they hear their fellow-chriſtians daily beſeeching God to deliver them. Occaſional admonitions, or exhortations to this purpoſe, may be eaſily forgotten or neglected by wicked men; but when the thoughts of another world are thus daily renewed upon their minds, it muſt be a daily check to their wicked courſes: And, I doubt not, but many perſons of evil and debauched inclinations, have not only been much reformed, but have become virtuous and religious, by falling providentially into ſuch regular families as have kept up this moſt edifying and godly exerciſe of daily prayer.

V. As the practice of daily prayer in families is the beſt way to reſtrain and reform the bad members of it, ſo it is an excellent means to make ſuch of them as are well diſpoſed to perſevere in their good diſpoſition, and to grow daily in grace and in purity of heart and affection, and to fit them more and more for the ſpiritual exerciſes of the next life. The heart of man is by nature carnal and earthly, ſet upon the buſineſs of this world, and not eaſily brought

brought to take delight in the things of the next. The work therefore which God hath appointed Chriſtians in this world, is to purify their hearts, and to bring them to a love of heavenly things. And for the effecting of this, he hath enjoined the exerciſe of ſeveral means, as reading, meditation, and the like; but of thoſe means, none is more effectual for that end than this of daily prayer. It is the only way we have of prevailing with God to ſend his Holy Spirit into our hearts; and the daily practice and uſe of lifting up our hearts to God in prayer, adds wings to the ſoul, and makes it move towards Heaven every day more naturally and eaſily, and brings it to a nearer acquaintance with God, and a better taſte and reliſh of that ſpiritual life, which every one that deſires Heaven muſt deſire, and be prepared to live hereafter. To which I may add, that daily prayer, as it contains in it a ſolemn confeſſion of ſins, gives good Chriſtians an opportunity, or rather puts them under a neceſſity of examining their lives day by day, and of repenting immediately of the ſins they commit, and by this daily confeſſion and repentance, they are kept in a right knowledge of their ſpiritual eſtate,

ſtate, and have their accounts in readineſs whenever God ſhall be pleaſed to call for them. Thus, all families who have ſettled and keep up this daily correſpondence with God in prayer, do truly *walk with* GOD, and are conſtantly advancing towards heaven in the way that he hath appointed; and are making themſelves every day more fit for his immediate preſence there.

VI. Where daily prayer is practiſed in any family, the members of it are *accuſtomed* to devotion, and by their appearing ſo frequently before GOD in a ſmall congregation, can much more readily frame their heart to due attention and zeal, when they come to appear before him in a larger, I mean at the public ſervice of the church; where Chriſtians meet, with mutual unity of hearts, and ſend up their joint prayers to GOD for the common neceſſities of one another. For it is the ſame ſpirit of devotion, that makes us both fit for public and private prayer; and unleſs that ſpirit be kept up by daily exerciſe, it will, of courſe, decay and languiſh; and when Chriſtians come to church after the diſuſe of devotion for ſome days together, they are, in a manner, ſtrangers to the work they are going

ing about; and their hearts having been employed only about earthly things, are not readily and eaſily raiſed up to heaven. Which is the true cauſe of that coldneſs, indifference, and wandering of thoughts and eyes, that are ſo common in the public worſhip of GOD: And I doubt it is generally true, that they who uſe no devotion at home, bring very little to the church. But now the uſe and practice of daily prayer at home trains up Chriſtians to a ſpirit and habit of devotion, and keeps their mind bent towards God and heavenly things; which, by frequent exerciſe, being made familiar to their thoughts, their hearts and affections are eaſily framed and compoſed to ſuch attention, devotion, and zeal, as becomes the houſe of GOD; and they are alſo armed againſt temptations to wandering, and thoſe diſturbances to devotion, which frequently happen in great and public congregations.

The ſum of this exhortation to family prayer is this: Prayer to Almighty GOD is an ordinance which he has appointed, as the condition of having our wants ſupplied, and as one ſpecial means of keeping up in our hearts a conſtant ſenſe of his majeſty and goodneſs, and thereby a due fear, and love, and reverence

rence of his name. Our wants are daily, and the temptations which draw our hearts from God to the things of this world, are alſo daily; and upon both theſe accounts our prayers ought alſo to be daily. This has been the practice of good and religious men in all ages; and they ſcarce deſerve the name of Chriſtians, who can lie down to reſt, without praying for the protection of God, and riſe again without thanking him for that protection, and begging his bleſſing upon themſelves and their undertakings the following day. The only way to have this ſurely and effectually done by Chriſtians, is to ſettle the practice of morning and evening prayer in their families; the members of which, at leaſt the greateſt part of them, are ſuppoſed ordinarily to be together at theſe two ſeaſons. When the times of prayer are thus ſettled, it will be accounted as a part of the buſineſs of the day; and as the neglect of it occaſions an habitual forgetfulneſs of God, and the things of another life, ſo the daily practice of it keeps up in families a face and ſpirit of religion, and is the beſt means that fathers and mothers, maſters and miſtreſſes, can uſe, to preſerve in themſelves, their children, and

and ſervants, ſuch a religious and heavenly frame of ſoul, as becomes a ſociety of Chriſtians. It brings down upon families the bleſſing of God, and ſupplies of grace to aſſiſt and direct thoſe members who heartily join with their brethren in daily prayer for it. And if there be any members of a family who are wicked or ill-diſpoſed, this practice is the way to reclaim them, and make them good, by bringing to their minds every day the thoughts of God and another world, and keeping their conſciences awake, which would otherwiſe be lulled aſleep in ſin and ſecurity. As to thoſe of a family who are good, and deſirous to grow every day better, the practice of daily prayer makes them fixed and ſtedfaſt in their religious diſpoſitions, and keeps their ſouls bent towards heaven and heavenly things, and raiſes them more and more to ſuch a ſpirit of devotion, as both prepares them, while they live, to be fervent and zealous amongſt the faithful in the public ſervice of God's church; and when they come to die, fit them for ſpiritual joys and exerciſes among the bleſſed in heaven.

May all they, for whoſe uſe this exhortation to family prayer is deſigned, read it ſeriouſly, and lay it to heart, as a matter that nearly concerns every Chriſtian; and may as many of them as have not already ſettled this godly practice in their families, reſolve that they will no longer neglect a duty, which will ſo much forward their own ſalvation, and is ſuch an excellent means of training up their children and ſervants to piety and religion.

MORNING

# MORNING PRAYER,

To be uſed in the Families of the

# PARISH OF LAMBETH.

*The Maſter or Miſtreſs having called together as many of the Family as can conveniently be preſent; let one of them, or any other whom they ſhall think moſt proper, ſay as follows; all kneeling.*

Acknowledgment of God's mercy and preſervation, eſpecially in the night paſt.

ALmighty and everlaſting God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, and whoſe mercy is over all thy works: We, thy needy creatures, in a thankful ſenſe of thy good providence over us, render thee our humbleſt praiſes for thy preſervation of us

from the beginning of our lives to this day. Bleſſed be thy holy name for the continual protection of thy hand, by which we have been defended amidſt the changes and chances of this mortal life, and kept and delivered from innumerable dangers, and particularly from the terrors and evil accidents of the paſt night. To thy watchful providence we wholly owe it [*that no diſturbance hath come nigh us or our dwelling, but that we have enjoyed quiet and refreſhing ſleep, and are brought in ſafety to the beginning of this day.] For theſe and all thy other mercies our ſouls do bleſs and magnify thy glorious name; humbly beſeeching thee to accept this our morning ſacrifice of praiſe and thankſgiving, for his ſake, who lay down in the grave, and roſe again for us, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

* When diſturbances of any kind befal a family, inſtead of this, ſay, [*that notwithſtanding our fears and dangers, we are brought in ſafety to the beginning of this day.*]

Dedication of ſoul and body to God's ſervice, with a reſolution to the growing daily in goodneſs.

AND ſince it is of thy mercy, O gracious Father, that another day is added to our lives; we here dedicate both our ſouls and bodies to thee and thy ſervice, to promote thy glory, and our ſalvation, in a ſober, righteous, and godly life. We renounce the devil and all his works, the vanities of this wicked world, and all the ſinful luſts of the fleſh, deſiring nothing ſo much as to ſerve thee faithfully all the days of our lives. And we ſincerely reſolve ſo to improve the time which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to grant us in this world, that we may every day become better Chriſtians, and perſevere in holineſs and righteouſneſs unto the end. In which reſolution do thou, O merciful God, confirm and ſtrengthen us; and eſpecially this day keep it ſtedfaſtly in the purpoſe of our hearts to perform

them, that as we grow in age, we may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

For grace to enable us to perform that reſolution.

BUT, Lord, thou knoweſt the weakneſs and corruption of our nature, and the manifold temptations that we daily meet with; We therefore humbly beſeech thee to have compaſſion upon our infirmities, and to give us the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy holy ſpirit; that we may be effectually reſtrained from ſin, and excited to our duty. And when thou ſeeſt us giving way to any temptation, ſuffer us not to be tempted above that we are able, but ſtretch out thy helping hand to ſave and deliver us. Imprint upon our hearts ſuch a dread of thy judgments, and ſuch a grateful ſenſe of thy goodneſs to us, as may make us both afraid and aſhamed to offend thee; and, above all,

all, keep up in our minds a lively remembrance of that great day, in which we muſt give a ſtrict account of our thoughts, words, and actions, and, according to the works done in the body, be eternally rewarded or puniſhed by him whom thou haſt appointed judge of quick and dead, thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

For grace to guide and keep us the following day.

IN particular, that we may then be able to give account of this day; grant us grace to have thee and thy law before our eyes, that we may walk in it according to thy will, with watchfulneſs and circumſpection. Keep us ſober and temperate in our meats and drinks, and diligent in the ſeveral callings and profeſſions which thy providence hath appointed us. Grant us patience under any affliction thou ſhalt ſee fit to lay upon us, and minds always contented with our

preſent condition. Give us grace to be juſt and upright in all our dealings, quiet and peaceable among our neighbours, full of compaſſion towards the needy and afflicted, and ever ready to do good to all men, according to the abilities and opportunities which thou ſhalt give us; that ſo walking faithfully before thee all our days, and being found watching whenever our appointed time ſhall come, we may, from a life of righteouſneſs, be tranſlated to a life of glory, through the merits and mediation of Jeſus Chriſt our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

AND

[* AND now we are entering upon the buſineſs of the ſeveral ſtations wherein thy providence hath placed us, we humbly beg thy bleſſing this day upon our honeſt deſigns and undertakings. Direct us in all our ways, and proſper the works of our hands:] And as we deſire to walk in a conſtant ſenſe of thy all-ſeeing providence; ſo let the ſame good providence watch over us, and preſerve our going-out and coming-in. Defend us from all dangers and adverſities, and

*For God's bleſſing upon the buſineſs of the day.*

* *On Sunday morning, inſtead of this, ſay,* And now we are going to the place of thy public worſhip, we beſeech thee let thy holy ſpirit accompany us, and make us devout, ſerious, and attentive. Raiſe our minds from the thoughts of this world, to the conſideration of the next, that we may join fervently in the prayers and praiſes of thy Church, and liſten to our duty with an honeſt heart, in order to practiſe it. And give us grace to dedicate this day, as thou haſt appointed us, to thy ſervice, and the care of our ſouls. Direct us in all our ways, and guide our feet in thy paths.

and be graciouſly pleaſed to take us, and all things belonging to us, into thy fatherly care and protection. Theſe things, O Lord, and whatever elſe thou ſhalt ſee neceſſary and convenient, either for our ſouls, our bodies, or eſtates, we humbly beg of thee, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe name and words we conclude our imperfect prayers.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# EVENING PRAYER,

To be uſed in the Families of the

## PARISH OF LAMBETH.

*The family being together, a little before bed-time, let the Maſter or Miſtreſs, or any other whom they ſhall think moſt proper, ſay as follows; all kneeling.*

Confeſſion of ſins, with a prayer for contrition and pardon.

MOST gracious and merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and haſt promiſed mercy and forgiveneſs to all them who confeſs and forſake their ſins: We come before thee in an humble ſenſe of our own unworthineſs, acknowledging our manifold tranſgreſſions

greſſions of thy righteous laws, in thought, word, and deed. We have every day been doing thoſe things which thou haſt forbidden, and leaving undone the things which thou haſt commanded; ſo that, when we look back upon our paſt lives, and remember that thou art privy to our moſt ſecret ſins, we are afraid of thy judgments, and aſhamed to lift up our eyes unto thee. * But, O gracious Father, who deſireſt not the death of a ſinner, look upon us, we beſeech thee, in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, and for the merits of his ſufferings, be thou merciful to our ſins. Make us deeply ſenſible of the great evil of them, and work in us a hearty contrition, and let the remembrance of them be more grievous and afflicting to us than that of any other evil whatſoever; that we, worthily lamenting our tranſgreſſions, and being

*Here let him who reads make a ſhort pauſe, that every one may ſecretly confeſs the ſins and failings of that day.

being brought to a hatred of our ſins, and a hearty repentance, may obtain forgiveneſs at thy hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent ſinners; for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Prayer for grace to reform and grow better.

AND leſt thro' our own frailty, or the temptations that encompaſs us, we be drawn again to our former ſins; vouchſafe us, we beſeech thee, the direction and aſſiſtance of thy holy ſpirit; that as thou haſt put into our hearts theſe deſires and reſolutions of amendment, ſo by the help of thy grace, we may bring the ſame to good effect, in a godly, righteous, and ſober life. Reform whatever thou findeſt amiſs in the temper and diſpoſitions of our ſouls; that no unclean thoughts, unlawful deſigns, or inordinate deſires may reſt there. Purge our hearts from envy, hatred, and malice, that we may

may never ſuffer the ſun to go down upon our wrath, but may always go to our reſt in peace, charity, and good-will, with a conſcience void of offence towards thee, and towards men: That ſo our hearts being a fit habitation for thy holy ſpirit, he may continually dwell therein; and we, whether we wake or ſleep, may be under his bleſſed protection, and have our whole ſpirit, and ſoul, and body, preſerved pure and blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The interceſſion, general and particular.

WITH theſe prayers in behalf of ourſelves, accept, O Lord, as the teſtimony of our love and charity, our hearty interceſſions for all mankind. Let the light of thy Goſpel ſhine upon all nations; and may as many as have already heard and received it, live as becomes it. Be more eſpecially gracious to the Church and nation

nation whereunto we belong. Bleſs the King, and all who by thy providence have authority under him; ſo rule their hearts, and ſtrengthen their hands, that they may neither want will nor power to puniſh wickedneſs and vice, and to maintain thy true Religion among us. Send down thy bleſſings, temporal and ſpiritual, upon all our relations, friends, and neighbours. Reward all that have done us good, and pardon all thoſe who have done, or wiſh us evil, and give them repentance and better minds. Be merciful to all who are in any trouble or affliction of mind, body, or eſtate; and do thou, the God of pity and compaſſion, adminiſter to every one help and comfort, according to their ſeveral neceſſities; for his ſake, who went about doing good to the ſouls and bodies of men, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The thankſgiving, general and particular.

TO our prayers and interceſſions for future bleſſings, we add our unfeigned thanks for all thy mercies, which, from time to time, thou haſt vouchſafed us; for our being, our reaſon, and all other endowments and faculties of ſoul and body; for our health, friends, food, and raiment, and all the other comforts and conveniences of life. Above all, we adore thy tender mercy and compaſſion to us and all mankind, in ſending thy only Son into the world, to redeem us from ſin and eternal death, and in giving us the knowledge and ſenſe of our duty towards thee. We bleſs thee for thy patience with us, notwithſtanding our many and great provocations; for all the directions, aſſiſtances, and comforts of thy holy ſpirit; for thy continual care and watchful providence over us, through the whole courſe of our lives;

lives; and, particularly, for the mercies and benefits of the paſt day: Beſeeching thee to continue theſe thy bleſſings to us, and give us grace to ſhew our ſenſe of them, and all thy other mercies, in a ſincere obedience to his laws, through whoſe merits and interceſſion we receive them all, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

Prayer for God's protection the following night.

IN a particular manner we beſeech thee to continue thy gracious protection to us this night. Into thy hand we commend our ſouls and bodies, our ſubſtance, dwelling, and all things that belong to us. Do thou, O gracious God, who neither ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt, be pleaſed to take both us and them this night into thy eſpecial care and protection. Defend us from all dangers and miſchiefs, and from the dread and fear of them; that we may

enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing ſleep, as may fit us for the duties of the following day. And, Lord, make us ever mindful of that time when we ſhall lie down in the duſt; and grant us grace always to live in ſuch a ſtate, that we may never be afraid to die; but that whether we live, we may live unto thee; or whether we die, we may die unto thee; ſo that, living and dying, we may be thine, through the merits and ſatisfaction of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus, in whoſe name and words we conclude our imperfect prayers.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# MORNING PRAYER,

*To be uſed as there is occaſion, by one perſon in private.*

Acknowledgment of God's mercy and preſervation, eſpecially the night paſt.

ALmighty and everlaſting God, in whom I live, and move, and have my being, and whoſe mercy is over all thy works: I, thy needy creature, in a thankful ſenſe of thy good providence over me, render thee my humbleſt praiſes for thy preſervation of me from the beginning of my life to this day. Bleſſed be thy holy name for the continual protection of thy hand, by which I have been defended amidſt the changes and

chances of this mortal life, and kept and delivered from innumerable dangers, and particularly from the terrors and evil accidents of the paſt night. To thy watchful providence I wholly owe it, [*that no diſturbance hath come nigh me or my dwelling, but that I have enjoyed quiet and refreſhing ſleep, and am brought in ſafety to the beginning of this day.] For theſe and all thy other mercies, my ſoul doth bleſs and magnify thy glorious name; humbly beſeeching thee to accept this my morning ſacrifice of praiſe and thankſgiving, for his ſake who lay down in the grave, and roſe again for me, thy Son my only Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

* When diſturbances of any kind ſhall happen, inſtead of this, ſay, [*that notwithſtanding my fear and danger, I am brought in ſafety to the beginning of this day.*

AND

Dedication of ſoul and body to God's ſervice, with a reſolution to the growing daily in goodneſs.

AND ſince it is of thy mercy, O gracious Father, that another day is added to my life; I here dedicate both my ſoul and body to thee and thy ſervice, to promote thy glory and my own ſalvation, in a ſober, righteous, and godly life. I renounce the devil and all his works, the vanities of this wicked world, and all the ſinful luſts of the fleſh, deſiring nothing ſo much as to ſerve thee faithfully all the days of my life. And I ſincerely reſolve ſo to improve the time, which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to grant me in this world, that I may every day become a better Chriſtian, and perſevere in holineſs and righteouſneſs unto the end. In which reſolutions, do thou, O merciful God, confirm and ſtrengthen me; and eſpecially this day keep it ſteadfaſtly in the purpoſe of my heart to perform them, that as I grow

grow in age, I may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of my Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

For grace to enable me to perform that reſolution.

BUT, Lord, thou knoweſt the weakneſs and corruption of my nature, and the manifold temptations which I daily meet with; I therefore humbly beſeech thee to have compaſſion upon my infirmities, and to give me the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy holy ſpirit; that I may be effectually reſtrained from ſin, and excited to my duty. And when thou ſeeſt me giving way to any temptation, ſuffer me not to be tempted above that I am able, but ſtretch out thy helping hand to ſave and deliver me. Imprint upon my heart ſuch a dread of thy judgments, and ſuch a love of thy goodneſs towards me, as may make me both afraid and aſhamed to offend thee; and, above all, keep up in my mind a lively remembrance of that great day, in which

which I muſt give a ſtrict account of my thoughts, words, and actions, and, according to the works done in the body, be eternally rewarded or puniſhed by him whom thou haſt appointed judge of quick and dead, thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

For grace to guide and keep me the following day.

IN particular, that I may then be able to give account of this day; grant me grace to have thee and thy laws before my eyes, that I may walk in it according to thy will, with watchfulneſs and circumſpection. Keep me ſober and temperate in my meat and drink, and diligent in the calling and profeſſion which thy providence hath appointed me. Grant me patience under any affliction thou ſhalt ſee fit to lay upon me, and a mind always contented with my preſent condition. Give me grace to be juſt and upright in all my dealings, quiet and peaceable among

among my neighbours, full of compaſſion towards the needy and afflicted, and ever ready to do good to all men, according to the abilities and opportunities which thou ſhalt give me; that ſo, walking faithfully before thee all my days, and being found watching whenever my appointed time ſhall come, I may, from a life of righteouſneſs, be tranſlated to a life of glory, through the merits and mediation of Jeſus Chriſt my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*For God's bleſſing upon the buſineſs of the day.*

[* AND now I am entering upon the buſineſs of the ſtation wherein thy providence hath placed me, I humbly beg thy bleſſing this day upon my honeſt deſigns and undertakings. Direct me in all my

* *On Sunday morning, inſtead of this, ſay,* And now I am going to the place of thy public worſhip, I beſeech thee let thy holy ſpirit accompany me, and make me devout, ſerious, and attentive. Raiſe my mind from the thoughts of this world, to the conſi-

my ways, and proſper the works of my hands:] And as I deſire to walk in a conſtant ſenſe of thy all-ſeeing providence; ſo let the ſame good providence watch over me, and preſerve my going-out and my coming-in. Defend me from all dangers and adverſities, and be graciouſly pleaſed to take me, and all things belonging to me, into thy fatherly care and protection. Theſe things, O Lord, and whatever elſe thou ſhalt ſee neceſſary and convenient, either for my ſoul, my body, or eſtate, I humbly beg of thee, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe name and words I conclude my imperfect prayers.

deration of the next, that I may join fervently in the prayers and praiſes of thy church, and liſten to my duty with an honeſt heart, in order to practiſe it. And give me grace to dedicate this day, as thou haſt appointed me, to thy ſervice, and the care of my ſoul. Direct me in all my ways, and guide my feet in thy paths.

*Our*

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# EVENING PRAYER,

*To be uſed as there is Occaſion, by one Perſon in private.*

MOST gracious and merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and haſt promiſed mercy and forgiveneſs to all them who confeſs and forſake their ſins; I come before thee in an humble ſenſe of my own unworthineſs, acknowledging my manifold tranſgreſſions of thy righteous laws, in thought, word, and deed. I have every day been doing thoſe things which thou haſt forbidden, and leaving undone the things which thou haſt commanded; ſo that when I look back upon

Confeſſion of ſins, with a prayer for contrition and pardon.

my paſt life, and remember that thou art privy to my moſt ſecret ſins, I am afraid of thy judgments, and aſhamed to lift up my eyes unto thee. †But, O gracious Father, who deſireth not the death of a ſinner, look upon me, I beſeech thee, in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, and for the merits of his ſufferings, be thou merciful to my ſins. Make me deeply ſenſible of the great evil of them, and work in me a hearty contrition, and let the remembrance of them be more grievous and afflicting to me, than of any other evil whatſoever; that I, worthily lamenting my tranſgreſſions, and being brought to a hatred of my ſins, and a hearty repentance, may obtain forgiveneſs at thy hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent ſinners; for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

† Here make a particular confeſſion of the ſins and failings of the paſt day.

AND

AND leſt thro' my own frailty, or the temptations that encompaſs me, I be drawn again to my former ſins; vouchſafe me, I beſeech thee, the direction and aſſiſtance of thy holy ſpirit; that as thou haſt put into my heart theſe deſires and reſolutions of amendment, ſo by the help of thy grace, I may bring the ſame to good effect, in a godly, righteous, and ſober life. Reform whatever thou findeſt amiſs in the temper and diſpoſitions of my ſoul; that no unclean thoughts, unlawful deſigns, or inordinate deſires, may reſt there. Purge my heart from envy, hatred, and malice, that I may never ſuffer the ſun to go down upon my wrath, but may always go to my reſt in peace, charity, and good-will, with a conſcience void of offence towards thee, and towards men: That ſo my heart being a fit habi-

Prayer for grace to reform and grow better.

tation for thy holy ſpirit, he may continually dwell therein; and I, whether I wake or ſleep, may be under his bleſſed protection, and have my whole ſpirit, and ſoul, and body, preſerved pure and blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The interceſſion general and particular.

WITH theſe Prayers in behalf of myſelf, accept, O Lord, as the teſtimony of my love and charity, my hearty interceſſions for all mankind. Let the light of thy goſpel ſhine upon all nations; and may as many as have already heard and received it, live as becomes it. Be more eſpecially gracious to the church and nation whereunto I belong. Bleſs the king, and all who by thy providence have authority under him; ſo rule their hearts and ſtrengthen their hands, that

that they may neither want will nor power to puniſh wickedneſs and vice, and to maintain thy true religion among us. Send down thy bleſſings, temporal and ſpiritual, upon all my relations, friends, and neighbours. Reward all that have done me good, and pardon all thoſe who have done, or wiſh me evil, and give them repentance and better minds. Be merciful to all who are in any trouble or affliction of mind, body, or eſtate; and do thou, the God of pity and compaſſion, adminiſter to every one help and comfort, according to their ſeveral neceſſities; for his ſake who went about doing good to the ſouls and bodies of men, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The thankſgiving general and particular.

TO my prayers and interceſſions for future bleſſings, I add my unfeigned thanks for all thy mercies which from time to time thou haſt vouchſafed me; for my being, my reaſon, and all other endowments and faculties of ſoul and body: For my health, friends, food, and raiment, and all other comforts and conveniencies of life. Above all, I adore thy tender mercy and compaſſion to me and all mankind, in ſending thy only Son into the world, to redeem me from ſin and eternal death, and in giving me the knowledge and ſenſe of my duty towards thee. I bleſs thee for thy patience with me, notwithſtanding my many and great provocations; for all the directions, aſſiſtances and comforts of thy holy ſpirit; for thy continual care and watchful providence over me, through the whole courſe of

of my life; and particularly for the mercies and benefits of the paſt day: Beſeeching thee to continue theſe thy bleſſings to me, and to give me grace to ſhew my ſenſe of them, and all thy other mercies, in a ſincere obedience to his laws, through whoſe merits and interceſſion I receive them all, thy Son my Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

Prayer for God's protection the following night.

IN a particular manner I beſeech thee to continue thy gracious protection to me this night. Into thy hand I commend my ſoul and body, my ſubſtance, dwelling, and all things that belong to me. Do thou, O gracious God, who neither ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt, be pleaſed to take both me and them this night into thy eſpecial care and protection. Defend me from all dangers

gers and miſchiefs, and from the dread and fear of them; that I may enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing ſleep, as may fit me for the duties of the following day. And, Lord, make me ever mindful of that time when I ſhall lie down in the duſt; and grant me grace always to live in ſuch a ſtate, that I never may be afraid to die; but that whether I live, I may live unto thee; or whether I die, I may die unto thee; ſo that living and dying I may be thine, through the merits and ſatisfaction of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe name and words I conclude my imperfect prayers.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt*

*against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# PRAYERS

FOR

## MORNING AND EVENING.

Suited to the Condition of CHILDREN, and to be ſaid by them in Private; eſpecially when they cannot be preſent at the *Public* or *Family* Prayers.

### MORNING PRAYER.

*When you riſe out of Bed in the Morning, ſay,*

I laid me down and ſlept, and roſe up again, for the Lord ſuſtained me. *Pſal.* iii. 5.

*When you have put on your Cloaths, ſay the following prayer.*

O Almighty God, who madeſt and governeſt all things in heaven and earth, and whoſe mercy is over all thy works; I give thee humble thanks for that thou haſt

haſt delivered me from the perils and dangers of the paſt night, and brought me ſafely to the beginning of this day. Protect me in it, I beſeech thee, by thy good providence, and give me grace to be diligent in my buſineſs, and dutiful and obedient to my parents and governors. Preſerve me from ſickneſs and dangers, and all evil accidents, but eſpecially from ſin and vice, and from the ſnares and temptations of profane company and evil examples. Keep up in me an awful reverence of thee and thy name, that I may at all times behave myſelf in the holy offices of religion with ſerioufneſs and attention, and carefully abſtain from vanity and profaneneſs of all kinds. Imprint upon my mind ſuch a ſenſe and fear of thy all-ſeeing eye, as may keep me from falſhood and lying, and every evil way; remembering that thou beholdeſt the moſt ſecret thoughts and actions of my heart and life.

That

That walking always in thy fear, and being protected by thy good providence both in body and ſoul, I may evermore ſerve and pleaſe thee; and as I grow in age, may alſo grow in grace and goodneſs. Grant this, O merciful Father, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my only mediator and advocate. *Amen.*

---

## EVENING PRAYER.

ALmighty God, in whom I live, and move, and have my being, and to whoſe gracious providence over me, I owe all the bleſſings and benefits which I enjoy; I give thee humble thanks for thy preſervation of me, and for all thy other mercies towards me, from the beginning of my life to this day; beſeeching thee to pardon all the ſins and failings by which I have at any time offended thee, and to give me grace to avoid them

them for the time to come. I thank thee more eſpecially for the bleſſing which thou haſt vouchſafed me, of a pious and virtuous education; and I pray thee to make me ſenſible of the great benefit of it, and careful to improve it, in a ſober, ſerious, and regular life; that ſo I may lay a ſure foundation for my own happineſs, and be a faithful ſervant to thee, and a comfort* to my *dear parents*, whom I beſeech thee evermore to bleſs and reward for all their care and love towards me. I thank thee, in particular, for thy preſervation of me throughout the paſt day, and beſeech thee to continue thy gracious protection to me this night, and to give me ſuch quiet and refreſhing ſleep, as may fit me for the duties of the following day. All which I beg of thee for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

* To my dear father or mother, if *one* be dead; *or* to my relations and governors, if the parents be both dead.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

*When you lie down in bed, ſay,*

I will lie me down in peace, and take my reſt, for it is thou Lord only that makeſt me dwell in ſafety. *Pſal.* iv. 9.

# PRAYERS

FOR

# MORNING AND EVENING,

Suited to the Condition of SERVANTS, and to be ſaid by them in Private; eſpecially when they cannot be preſent at the *Public* or *Family* Prayer.

## MORNING PRAYER.

*When you riſe out of Bed in the Morning, ſay,*

I laid me down and ſlept, and roſe up again, for the Lord ſuſtained me. *Pſal.* iii. 5.

*When you have put on your Cloaths, ſay the following Prayer.*

ALmighty and everlaſting God, in whom I live and move and have my being, and whoſe mercy is over all thy works, I

render thee my humble thanks for thy preſervation of me from the beginning of my life to this time. In particular, I thank thee for that thou haſt protected me from the perils and dangers of the night paſt, and haſt given me quiet and comfortable reſt, and brought me ſafely to the beginning of this day. Let the ſame good providence ſtill watch over me, and preſerve my going-out and my coming-in; that I may be defended from all dangers and miſchiefs, and from the temptations of the world, the fleſh, and the devil. Give me grace to behave myſelf with ſobriety, diligence, and honeſty, in the buſineſs of my ſtation, and with duty and ſubmiſſion to thoſe whom thou haſt ſet over me; and to deſire and endeavour to live in peace and love with my fellow-ſervants. Preſerve in me a ſtrict regard to truth and ſincerity in all my words and actions, and let no fear

of

of puniſhment or diſpleaſure from men, ever make me tranſgreſs my duty to thee. And to the end I may walk in thy fear this day, and all the days of my life, keep up in my mind a due ſenſe and reverence of thy all-ſeeing eye, and a lively remembrance of that great day, in which I muſt give a ſtrict account of my thoughts, words, and actions, and, according to the works done in my body, be ſentenced to happineſs or miſery to all eternity. Grant this, O Father, for the ſake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

---

## EVENING PRAYER.

MOST gracious God, who by thy wiſe providence haſt appointed to mankind their ſeveral ſtations and offices in this life, I acknowledge thy wiſdom and goodneſs in this and all thy other

diſpenſations; deſiring in all things to pay a ready and chearful ſubmiſſion to thy holy will. To this end, endue me with ſuch a ſpirit of humility, patience, and contentment, as is ſuitable to the condition in which thy providence hath placed me. Bleſs me with health of body, and comfort of mind, that I may perform the offices which belong to me with chearfulneſs and reſignation; doing my duty as unto thee, and not only unto men, and reſting upon thy gracious promiſes for a reward of my labour and obedience in this life. And ſince, through the frailty of my nature, and the manifold temptations which I daily meet with, I cannot always ſtand upright, I pray thee to forgive me all tranſgreſſions of my duty, whether in thought, word, or deed; and eſpecially forgive me the ſins and failings of the paſt day, and enable me by thy holy ſpirit to avoid them for the time to come,

and

and to be ever growing in the graces and virtues of the Chriſtian life, as long as thou ſhalt be pleaſed to continue me in this world. I thank thee for thy conſtant care over me, amidſt all the changes of this mortal life, and in particular for thy preſervation of me throughout the paſt day; and I beſeech thee to continue thy gracious protection to me this night, that I may enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing ſleep, as may fit me for the duties of the following day. All which I beg of thee, in the name and for the merits of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

*When you lie down in bed, ſay,*

I will lie me down in peace, and take my reſt, for it is thou Lord only that makeſt me dwell in ſafety. *Pſal.* iv. 9.

# MORNING PRAYER

## FOR A FAMILY.

O Moſt gracious God and kind Father! in all humility of ſoul and body we preſent ourſelves before the throne of thy majeſty and glory, acknowledging that we are thy dependent creatures, and that from thy bountiful hand we have received many and exceeding great bleſſings.

By thee, at firſt, we were wonderfully made; by thy power we have ever ſince been preſerved; and it is owing to thy great mercy and goodneſs that we have not been cut off in the midſt of our ſins, but that thou haſt been patient and long-ſuffering towards us, and haſt given us this opportunity

tunity of coming into thy preſence to renew our praiſes and acknowledgments to thy divine majeſty. O Lord, thy compaſſion fails not. By thee we have been preſerved the night paſt; and to thy goodneſs we aſcribe it, that we are brought in health and ſafety to the beginning of this day.

Accept, we humbly pray thee, of our unfeigned thanks for all the mercies and bleſſings which thou haſt been pleaſed to beſtow upon us; and pardon, we beſeech thee, for the ſake of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus, our great unworthineſs of what thou haſt done for us. Give us ſuch a ſenſe of thy infinite love and kindneſs, as may engage us more and more to love and obey thee, and make us afraid of every thing that may be diſpleaſing in thy ſight.

O Lord! vouchſafe us ſuch a meaſure of thy grace and holy ſpirit, as may defend us againſt the ſnares

ſnares and temptations of this wicked world, and enable us to overcome all our corrupt and ſinful deſires. Give us a true ſenſe of the ineſtimable value of our ſouls, that we may make it the chief care and concern of our lives to work out our ſalvation with the greateſt care and diligence, and to ſecure an intereſt in thy favour, which is better than life itſelf.

Withdraw our minds from the love of this world, and place them upon heaven and heavenly things. Give us grace to uſe the bleſſings, which thou art pleaſed to beſtow upon us, with temperance, ſobriety, and moderation; with an entire truſt and dependence on thy fatherly care and good providence, and with a perfect ſubmiſſion to thy bleſſed will in all things.

O Lord! root out of our hearts all pride and envy; all hatred, malice, and ill-will. Put away from

from us all cenſoriouſneſs and uncharitableneſs, all lying and ſlandering, and whatever elſe is contrary to a truly Chriſtian ſpirit; and endue us, we moſt humbly pray thee, with that meekneſs and humility, which is in thy ſight of ſo great value, and with all thoſe holy and Chriſtian diſpoſitions which thou loveſt and delighteſt in.

Inſtruct us in all the particulars of our duty which we owe to thee, our neighbour, and ourſelves. Guide us by thy right-hand, and conduct us by thy good ſpirit, through all the buſineſs and affairs of this life. Teach us to act with faithfulneſs and honeſty in every thing that we undertake; and give us ſuch a dread of thy diſpleaſure, and ſuch a ſenſe of thy continual preſence with us, as may ſecure us, by thy grace, againſt all the temptations of the world, the fleſh, and the devil.

Be

Be with us, O Lord, this day, wherever we go, and in whatſoever we do. Preſerve us from the dangers of evil company, from the deceitfulneſs of our own hearts; and defend us more eſpecially from thoſe ſins that are moſt apt to betray and enſnare us. Let thy bleſſing accompany all our honeſt labours; and vouchſafe us ſuch a meaſure of health, and other temporal bleſſings, as thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt fitting for us. We deſire, O Lord, to leave ourſelves, and all our concerns, in thy hands; humbly beſeeching thee to take us, and all that belong to us, under the protection of thy good providence; and ſo to bleſs, direct, and guide us in this life, that we may at laſt obtain that greateſt of all bleſſings, the eternal ſalvation of our immortal ſouls, through the merits, and for the ſake of thy dear

This is to be omitted on a Sunday morning; and what follows may be uſed inſtead thereof.

Son, and our alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt: for whom our ſouls adore and praiſe thy glorious name, and in whoſe moſt holy words we ſum up our own and the wants of all mankind, ſaying, *Our Father, &c.*

This is to be uſed on a Sunday morning inſtead of the foregoing paragraph.

Diſpoſe our hearts, O Lord, we humbly beſeech thee, to a ſerious attendance upon thee in all holy duties. Make us duly mindful of all thy ſacred inſtitutions, and grant, that we may never ſo far forget the intereſt of our ſouls, as to neglect the religious obſervance of the Chriſtian Sabbath. And as thou haſt brought us to the beginning of this ſacred day; ſo be thou graciouſly pleaſed to take us into thy protection, and to aſſiſt us in a right diſcharge of the duties of it. Withdraw our minds from the care and buſineſs

ſineſs and pleaſures of this life, which will ſhortly have an end, that we may more freely attend upon the great concerns of that far better life, which is to laſt for evermore. Give us awful thoughts of thy great majeſty, and a lively ſenſe of our own wants, that our prayers and praiſes, and all our ſervices, may be offered up in ſuch a ſerious and devout manner, as may render them acceptable in thy ſight. Make us attentive to thy holy word, and to all the good inſtructions that ſhall this day be given us; and grant that we may not reſt in mere outward performances; but, by a right uſe of thy holy ordinances, may grow in grace, and become every day better Chriſtians, and ſo improve in all virtuous and godly living, that, when this ſhort life ſhall have an end, we may dwell with thee in life everlaſting, through the merits of thy Son, and

our alone Saviour Jeſus Chriſt; for whom our ſouls bleſs and praiſe thee, and in whoſe moſt holy words we ſum up our own, and the wants of all mankind, ſaying,

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# AN

# EVENING PRAYER

# FOR A FAMILY.

O Moſt merciful and gracious Lord God! the great creator, preſerver, and governor of the world. Thou art infinite in mercy and goodneſs to all that call upon thee faithfully; and haſt promiſed, that when two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt be in the midſt of them. Look down, we humbly beſeech thee, upon us thy unworthy creatures, who are here aſſembled before thee, acknowledging that thou art a God greatly to be feared for thy power and juſtice, greatly to be beloved for thy in-

finite perfections and goodneſs, and greatly to be praiſed for thy bounty and merciful kindneſs. But as for ourſelves, we confeſs, O Lord, that we are vile and ſinful creatures; that we have, in many things, acted contrary to thy moſt holy will, and have neither loved thee, feared thee, nor obeyed thee, as we ought to have done. O Lord! if thou ſhouldeſt deal with us as we have deſerved, we could expect nothing from thee but the ſeverities of thy juſt wrath and diſpleaſure.

But, O gracious Father, who delighteſt not in the death of a ſinner, look down upon us, we beſeech thee, in thy Son Chriſt Jeſus; and, for the ſake of his meritorious death and ſufferings, pardon our many and great tranſgreſſions of thy holy laws; and grant that we may amend whatever we have done amiſs, and for the time to come may be more careful to pleaſe thee,

thee, and more ſincerely devoted to thy ſervice and obedience.

Convince us thoroughly, O Lord, of the great folly and danger of ſin, and make us ſo afraid of offending thee, that we may abſtain from all appearance of evil, and do nothing but what is pleaſing in thy ſight. Let the intereſt of our immortal ſouls be our chief care and concern; and grant that we may live as becomes the goſpel of Chriſt, denying all ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, and living righteouſly, ſoberly, and godly, in this preſent world.

But, as without thee we are not able to pleaſe thee, grant us the aſſiſtance of thy grace and holy ſpirit, that we may paſs through all the temptations of this world with peace and innocence and ſafety; and enable us to bear up, with courage and reſolution, againſt all the aſſaults of our great adverſary the devil, who is daily lying in wait to deſtroy us.

Suffer

Suffer us not, O merciful God, to be led away by the vain and fooliſh cuſtoms of this world, nor ſeduced from our duty by the company and example of the wicked and ungodly; but grant that we may make thy laws the rule of all our actions, and faithfully diſcharge our duty in the ſeveral places and ſtations wherein thy providence is pleaſed to place us.

Make us duly mindful that thou art preſent every where, and privy to our moſt ſecret thoughts; that we may never dare to do any thing but what thou approveſt, and of which we may not fear to give an account at the great and terrible day of the Lord Jeſus. O fit and prepare us for that ſolemn time, by a virtuous and holy life, that, when we ſhall appear before the great Judge of all the world, we may be found in the number of thoſe happy ſouls, whom he then ſhall pronounce bleſſed.

Extend

Extend thy mercy, O God, to all mankind, and bring them to the light and knowledge and practice of thy law.

Remove, we humbly beſeech thee, all errors and corruptions, all diviſions and diſſenſions, from every communion of Chriſtians; and grant that the lives of thoſe who profeſs themſelves the diſciples of Chriſt may be holy and exemplary, and ſuch as become the goſpel of our bleſſed Saviour.

Reform all things that are amiſs in theſe kingdoms. Root out from among us all irreligion and prophaneneſs, all uncharitableneſs and animoſities. Pardon our great and crying ſins; avert the evils that we have deſerved; continue the light of thy glorious goſpel among us; and give us all grace to turn from the evil of our ways unto thee the Lord our God.

Bleſs our ſovereign lord the king, and all that are in authority under him, both in church and ſtate.

ſtate. Make them all, in their ſeveral places and ſtations, uſeful and ſerviceable to thy glory, and the good and welfare of this church and nation.

And, O thou, who art the Father of mercies, and God of all conſolation, look down with pity and compaſſion upon all thy afflicted ſervants every where; give them courage and patience, comfort and ſupport, in thee; and in thy good time, a joyful deliverance out of all their troubles.

Send down thy bleſſings ſpiritual and temporal upon all our friends and relations. Do good unto thoſe that have, at any time, done or wiſhed us evil; and vouchſafe unto every one of us, and to all Chriſtians, whatever thou knoweſt to be beſt for our temporal and eternal welfare.

And now, O Lord, we deſire, with all humility of ſoul and body, to adore thy incomprehenſible majeſty, and to praiſe thy great

and

and glorious name for all thy manifold mercies and favours vouchſafed to us and all mankind; but, above all, for thy aſtoniſhing love in reconciling the world unto thyſelf by the death and ſufferings of thy dear Son.

We bleſs thee for our creation and preſervation; for our health, ſtrength, peace, and ſafety; for the comforts and conveniencies of this life, and the hopes and expectations of a far better, through thy tender mercies in Chriſt Jeſus.

O Lord, imprint in our hearts ſuch a deep ſenſe of thy mercies, that we may ſhew forth thy praiſes, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourſelves to thy ſervice, and by walking before thee in holineſs and righteouſneſs all our days.

We confeſs, O Lord, that we are unworthy of the leaſt of all thy favours; but, in confidence of thy infinite mercy and goodneſs,

neſs, we do in great humility recommend ourſelves, our ſouls, and bodies, and all that belong to us, to thy fatherly care and good providence; humbly beſeeching thee, who art our only ſafety and defence, to take us this night under thy almighty protection, and to give thy holy angels charge over us, that no evil comes near to hurt us.

Refreſh our bodies with quiet and refreſhing ſleep, and our ſouls with the comforts of thy holy ſpirit: And, when thou ſhalt think fit to take us out of this world, give us everlaſting reſt and peace in thy eternal kingdom, through the merits, and for the ſake of our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt, who hath taught us when we pray, to ſay,

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as*

*it*

*it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

A

# MORNING PRAYER

## FOR A PERSON IN PRIVATE.

O Moſt great, moſt mighty, and moſt glorious Lord God! look down from the habitation of thy holineſs upon me thy unworthy creature, who am come into thy preſence to adore thy incomprehenſible majeſty, and to preſent before thee the morning ſacrifice of my unfeigned praiſes, for the many and undeſerved mercies thou haſt beſtowed upon me.

O Lord, I acknowledge, that to thee of right belongs eternal honour, glory, praiſe, and adoration: For thou art the Sovereign Lord

Lord of heaven and earth, by whom all things were made, and by whoſe infinite power and goodneſs they are preſerved and kept in being.

Bleſſed be thy unſpeakable goodneſs, which hath advanced me to ſuch a degree of being, that I am in ſome meaſure capable to know thee, love thee, ſerve thee, and obey thee.

Bleſſed be thy name, O Lord, that I was born of Chriſtian parents, and early dedicated to thee by baptiſm; and that by thy grace and goodneſs I have been preſerved to this moment, and have in any meaſure eſcaped the pollutions of this wicked world.

I bleſs thee likewiſe, O Lord, for all thy temporal mercies, and in particular for the refreſhments of the night paſt; for protecting me againſt all evil accidents, and for raiſing me up in health and ſafety to praiſe thy goodneſs.

Pardon, O moſt gracious God, all the unworthy returns I have made for thy exceeding kindneſs and mercy, and vouchſafe me ſuch a ſenſe of thy infinite love, as may inſpire me with more vigorous and hearty endeavours to ſerve thee for the time to come.

O Lord, I acknowledge that I am a weak and frail creature, and that without thy help I am not able to bear up againſt the trials and temptations of this world. But ſince thou haſt promiſed to give thy holy ſpirit to them that aſk it; I am emboldened to impiore his divine aſſiſtance to ſtrengthen my weakneſs, to help my infirmities, and to mortify my mind, that I may not be tempted above what I am able to bear, nor ſeduced from my duty to thee, by the deceitful inticements of the world, the fleſh, or the devil.

Root out of my heart, O God, all

all pride and vain-glory; all bitterneſs and uncharitableneſs; all envy, hatred, and malice; and ſuffer me not to be led away by any of the fooliſh cuſtoms and falſe maxims of this world. And O merciful Father, be thou pleaſed, of thy great goodneſs, to endue me with that wiſdom which is from above, which is firſt pure and then peaceable; with that meekneſs and humility, which is in thy ſight of ſo great price; and with that truly Chriſtian temper and diſpoſition, which thou loveſt and delighteſt in.

Lord, ſanctify unto me all thy fatherly diſpenſations, and let every thing thou ſhalt think fit to ſend me, prove a bleſſing and advantage to my ſoul. Give me grace to be entirely ſubmiſſive and content under all the afflictions, trials, and diſappointments, which thy wiſdom ſhall judge proper in order to bring me to

thyſelf; and grant that by every adverſity that ſhall befal me, I may be weaned from this world, and more cloſely united unto thee.

Make me always mindful of my own frailty, of the ſhortneſs and uncertainty of this life, and of the eternity of the next. Give me grace ſo to live, as I ſhall wiſh I had done when I come to die. Let not ſickneſs or death ever ſurprize me unawares, or find me in a ſtate unprovided; but grant that I may finiſh the great work which thou haſt given me to do, before the night cometh, when no man can work. O let me live in ſuch a conſtant preparation for my latter end, that how ſuddenly ſoever thou ſhalt be pleaſed to take me out of this world, I may be found ready and prepared for my great account, through the merits of my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer Jeſus Chriſt.

This to be omitted on a Sunday

Be with me, O Lord, this day in all

all places, and upon all occaſions. Direct and guide, ſanctify and preſerve me. Keep me both outwardly in my body, and inwardly in my ſoul. Let thy bleſſing accompany all my honeſt deſigns and undertakings, and grant that I may undertake nothing but what is agreeable to thy bleſſed will. Give unto me, and to all that belong to me, ſuch a meaſure of health, and other temporal bleſſings, as thou ſeeſt beſt and moſt fitting for us; but above all things, give us thy grace and favour; that our lives may be holy, our deaths comfortable, and our eternal ſtate happy and glorious with thee, through the merits of thy Son and our alone Saviour, Jeſus Chriſt the righteous, in whoſe moſt holy words I ſum up my own, and the wants of all mankind, ſaying,

morning, and what follows may be uſed inſtead thereof.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hal-*

*hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

Upon Sunday morning, inſtead of the preceding paragraph, this may be uſed.

Accept, I beſeech thee, O moſt gracious God, my hearty deſires in an eſpecial manner to glorify thee on this day, which thou haſt peculiarly ſanctified for thy worſhip and ſervice.

I bleſs thy holy name, O Lord, who by thy almighty power madeſt the heavens and the earth, and all that therein is, and preſerveſt and governeſt all that thou haſt made.

I bleſs thee, O Lord, who madeſt man after thine own image, enduing him with underſtanding, and

and reaſon, and liberty; and making him capable of knowing, and loving, and enjoying thee his Creator.

Above all, I bleſs and magnify thy holy name, O Lord, my heavenly Father, that thou haſt given thine only Son, Jeſus Chriſt, for the redemption of mankind; that he took our nature upon him; that he died for our ſakes; that he is riſen again from the dead; that he aſcended into heaven, and that he there ſitteth at thy right-hand, to make interceſſion for us; that he hath made known to us the way to eternal life, giving us his word for our direction, and his holy ſpirit for our guide and aſſiſtance.

Bleſſed be thy holy name, that thou haſt appointed this day, not only for a reſt from our ordinary labours and employments, but chiefly for a perpetual commemoration of theſe thy favours, and for giving us ſpecial opportunities

for

for thy worſhip and ſervice, and the care of our ſouls.

My ſoul deſires to bleſs thee, that thou haſt made me a partaker of all theſe ineſtimable advantages.

O Lord, prepare my heart for attending upon thee in thy houſe, and afford me thy gracious aſſiſtance in all the parts of thy ſervice.

Let thy word make deep and laſting impreſſions upon me. Help me diligently to improve all opportunities that ſhall be afforded me this day, whether public or private, to the glory of thy name, and the benefit and comfort of my ſoul, through Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour. *Amen.*

AN

# EVENING PRAYER

## FOR A PERSON IN PRIVATE.

MOST great and mighty God! thou art the Sovereign Lord of heaven and earth, the creator, the preſerver, and governor of all things: thou dwelleſt in that light, which no mortal eye can approach; and yet diſdaineſt not to behold the children of men. Look down, I beſeech thee, upon me thy unworthy creature, who am come into thy preſence, adoring thy majeſty, and acknowledging that my dependence is wholly upon thee, who art the author of my being,

being, and the foundation of my hopes, both here and hereafter.

O Lord, I confeſs that I am a weak and frail creature; my nature is corrupt, and miſerably prone to offend thee. I find a law in my members warring againſt the law in my mind; which I confeſs with ſorrow, has too often prevailed againſt me. The pleaſures and profits of the world are too apt to engage my affections, and to make me cold and remiſs in the great and important work of my ſalvation. I have been guilty of manifold neglects and omiſſions of my duty towards thee, and have not ſerved thee with that purity of intention, with that ſincerity of heart, with that fervency of ſpirit, with that zeal for thy glory, with that care and diligence, and conſtancy, that I ought to have done.

O Lord, if thou ſhouldeſt be extreme to mark what is done amiſs; if thou ſhouldeſt call me to a ſtrict

a ſtrict account for my life paſt, what could I ſay unto thee! or how ſhould I be able to ſtand in thy ſight! If thou ſhouldeſt deal with me as I have deſerved, I could expect nothing from thee but the ſeverities of thy wrath and diſpleaſure: But, O gracious Father, thou haſt revealed thyſelf to the ſons of men, as a God merciful and gracious, forgiving iniquity, tranſgreſſion and ſin: remember then, I beſeech thee, thy tender mercies which have been ever of old, and for the ſake and merits of my bleſſed Saviour, forgive, I humbly pray thee, all the ſins and vanities, the follies and indiſcretions of my life paſt. O! reſerve not my ſins to be puniſhed in the day of thy wrath and diſpleaſure, but blot them out of thy remembrance, that they may never riſe up to my confuſion here, nor to my condemnation hereafter.

O! enable me, by the aſſiſtance

of thy grace, to reform whatever thou ſeeſt amiſs in the temper and diſpoſition of my mind, or in any of the actions of my life; that I may love thee more and ſerve thee better, and do thy will with greater care and diligence, than I have yet done.

O Lord, keep up in my mind a lively ſenſe of my duty towards thee, and of that great account, which I muſt one day give. Suffer me not, I beſeech thee, to fall into a careleſs and unthinking ſtate, nor to be unmindful of that one thing needful, the ſalvation of my immortal ſoul. Make me ſo ſenſible of thoſe dreadful threatnings, which thou haſt denounced againſt ſinners, that whatever elſe I leave undone, I may make it my chief care and concern to ſecure an intereſt in thy favour. And, O merciful Father, be thou pleaſed, of thy great goodneſs, ſo to aſſiſt my weak and feeble endeavours, that

that I may not be unſucceſsful in a matter of ſuch vaſt concern.

Root out of my heart, O God, by the powerful efficacy of thy grace, all ſinful and corrupt affections. Wean me from the vanities and pleaſures of this world, and give me a full conviction of the uncertainty and inſufficiency of all things here below. O let me never ſeek for reſt and happineſs in the enjoyments of this life; but grant that I may daily aſpire after that eternal and unchangeable ſtate of happineſs, which thou haſt reſerved for us hereafter; and to which I beſeech thee, of thy infinite love and mercy, to bring me, and all thy faithful ſervants, through the merits, and for the ſake of thy dear Son, Jeſus Chriſt, our Lord.

Extend thy mercy, O God, to all mankind: In a more particular manner, I pray thee to be gracious to thoſe ſinful nations to which I belong; to pardon our great and

crying ſins; to avert the judgments which we have moſt juſtly deſerved, and to put away from us the ſpirit of profaneneſs and infidelity, of malice and uncharitableneſs; that thou mayeſt delight to dwell amongſt us, and mayeſt be our God, and we thy people.

Bleſs and preſerve our ſovereign lord king George, and grant that all who are put in authority under him may faithfully endeavour to promote thy glory, and the good and welfare of this church and nation.

Look with pity and compaſſion upon all thy afflicted ſervants: be a father to the fatherleſs; heal the ſick; ſupply the wants of the poor and needy; and grant that whatſoever is wanting of outward comforts to any one, may be abundantly made up by the inward conſolations of thy holy ſpirit.

Bleſs all my friends and relations, eſpecially ———; reward all who have done me good, and forgive

forgive all who have done or wiſhed me evil; and vouchſafe to every one of us, from the higheſt to the loweſt, whatever in thy great wiſdom thou knoweſt to be needful both for our ſouls and bodies.

And now, O moſt merciful Father, from an humble ſenſe of thy great goodneſs, I adore and praiſe thy glorious name, for all the manifeſtations of thy love and kindneſs vouchſafed unto me. I bleſs thee for my being, for my reaſon, and all the endowments and facuities of my ſoul and body; for my health, friends, food and raiment, and all the other comforts and conveniences I enjoy; for thy continual care and watchful providence over me, through the whole courſe of my life; and particularly, for the preſervation and protection of me the paſt day.

Give me grace, I beſeech thee, to make a right improvement of all thy bleſſings; and be thou graciouſly pleaſed to take me, and all

that belong to me, this night under the care and protection of thy fatherly providence. Give thy holy angels charge over us, and grant us ſuch refreſhment of ſoul and body as may enable us chearfully to go through the duties of that ſtation wherein thou haſt placed us. And when thou ſhalt be pleaſed to call us out of this world, O let us be found in the number of thy faithful ſervants, through the merits of our bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer, Jeſus Chriſt, for whom my ſoul doth bleſs and praiſe thee, and in whoſe moſt holy words I ſum up all my wants, ſaying,

*Our Father, &c.*

A

# PRAYER

*Which may be added to the daily* EVENING PRAYER, *on the* LORD'S DAY.

I Again return my moſt humble and hearty thanks to thee, O Lord my God, for the ſpecial bleſſings of this thy ſacred day; that I have been admitted to the great privilege of joining with thy faithful people, in their aſſemblies for public worſhip; to offer up my praiſes and prayers to thy divine majeſty, in the name of our bleſſed Redeemer; to hear thy holy word read and preached by the miniſters of thy goſpel; and that

I have had farther opportunities for employing myſelf more privately in thy worſhip and the care of my immortal ſoul.

I earneſtly beſeech thee, O Lord, to pardon all the wanderings and diſorders of my mind, and whatſoever elſe thou haſt ſeen amiſs in my attendance upon thee; and graciouſly to accept my ſincere, though weak, endeavours to ſerve thee.

Cauſe thy word, which I have heard or read, to abide in my heart, and to bring forth the fruits of a holy and religious life.

Help me, by the uſe of all the means of grace and ſalvation, to grow in grace, and in the knowledge of my Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, fitting me more and more for ſeeing and enjoying thee my God, and my bleſſed Redeemer, in the life to come: And grant, when I ſhall ceaſe to praiſe and ſerve thee with thy ſaints on earth, that I may continue to be ſo employed

ployed with the bleſſed ſpirits in heaven.

I heartily beg the ſame bleſſings for all my fellow Chriſtians, recommending them and myſelf to thee, my heavenly Father, in the words, and through the interceſſion of Jeſus Chriſt thy Son, our only mediator and advocate.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# A MORNING PRAYER FOR A YOUNG PERSON.

O LORD, my heavenly Father, I humbly adore thee, as the maker and governor of the world, the author of my being, the preſerver of my life, and the giver of every good thing.

I heartily thank thee for the comfortable reſt which I have enjoyed the night paſt; that thou haſt preſerved me in ſafety, and raiſed me up in health.

I bleſs thee for all thy goodneſs to me, ever ſince I came into the world, and eſpecially for the advantages thou haſt given me, by the

the inſtruction and improvement of my mind in the knowledge of thee, the only true God, and Jeſus Chriſt my Lord.

Grant, O good God! that the ſenſe of thy favours may ſo deeply affect my heart, that I may ſhew forth my thankfulneſs, in the whole courſe of my life. I am thine, O Lord, by creation, by redemption, by baptiſm and Chriſtian profeſſion, by all the obligations which thou haſt laid upon me. I deſire to be thine alſo, by a willing dedication of myſelf to thee every day of my life, and by a conſtant and faithful endeavour to approve myſelf to thee.

I beſeech thee, in thy great mercy, through the mediation of my bleſſed Redeemer, to pardon all my offences, and to enable me, by thy grace, to diſcern and to amend whatſoever is amiſs in me.

Help me ever to remember the Chriſtian principles which I have learned, and the pious inſtructions which

which have been given me; and never to depart from the good way in which I have been taught to walk.

Incline my heart to all that is good; grant that I may be modeſt and humble in my carriage and behaviour; chaſte and pure in all my thoughts, words, and actions; true and juſt in all my dealings; reſpectful and obedient to my ſuperiors; innocent and inoffenſive in my whole converſation; faithful and diligent in the diſcharge of all the duties of that ſtate and condition of life wherein thou haſt placed me: And teach me to fear and love thee, my God, above all things; and to do unto all others, as I would they ſhould do unto me.

Make me perfectly contented with my condition, and thankful to thee, who haſt given me all things neceſſary for life and godlineſs. Let thy good providence always take care of me, and let me

me never place my truſt and confidence in any thing but in thee.

Take me, I beſeech thee, into thy protection this day; keep me, if it be thy good will, in health and ſafety. Preſerve me from the vanity of my own heart, and from the temptations of the world, the fleſh, and the devil. Help me (through a ſenſe of thy conſtant preſence with me, and of the account I am to give unto thee) ſo to govern all my thoughts, words, and actions, that I may reflect upon them with ſatisfaction at the cloſe of this day.

Let thy bleſſing be upon every member of this family; upon all my relations and friends; upon all whom I ought, and whom I deſire to pray for.

I humbly commit both myſelf and them to thee, O my God, in the name of Jeſus Chriſt our Saviour, and in the words which he himſelf hath taught us.

*Our Father, &c.*

AN

# EVENING PRAYER

## FOR A YOUNG PERSON.

MOST gracious God, my heavenly Father, as I began, ſo I deſire always to end the day, with bleſſing thy holy name, and imploring thy favour.

Honour and worſhip, praiſe and thankſgiving, are due to thee from every underſtanding and reaſonable creature. I heartily bleſs thee, that I am of that number whom thou haſt made to ſerve and love thee, and that thou haſt moreover revealed thyſelf to me, by thy Son Jeſus Chriſt my Redeemer, and encouraged me to call upon thee in his name.

I humbly thank thee for thy daily care of me, and particularly for that good providence which has been over me the day paſt; that thou haſt preſerved me from the many evils to which I am juſtly liable; and haſt beſtowed upon me ſo many good things which I have not deſerved; eſpecially, for whatſoever thou haſt enabled me to do, which is acceptable in thy ſight, and I can reflect upon with ſatisfaction.

I humbly bewail, O Lord, the great weakneſs and corruption of my nature, and the many errors and tranſgreſſions of my life. I humbly beg thy mercy in the pardon of all my ſins, through the mediation of my bleſſed Redeemer; particularly of whatſoever thou haſt ſeen amiſs in me this day, either in thoughts, words, or actions.

Grant, O Lord, that the ſenſe of my unworthineſs may always keep me humble, and work in me

an unfeigned repentance of all my ſins; and let the remembrance of them ever excite me to a greater care and watchfulneſs for the time to come. Strengthen me in every good purpoſe and reſolution. Whatſoever part of my duty I know not, do thou teach me; and wherein I have done amiſs, help me to do ſo no more.

Leave me not, O Lord, at any time to myſelf, nor in the hands of my ſpiritual enemies. Preſerve me from thoſe circumſtances, that would prove a ſnare or temptation to me. Let thy good ſpirit continually enlighten and ſanctify my mind, directing and aſſiſting me through the whole courſe of my life.

Fill me with a ſenſe of my conſtant and entire dependence upon thee, that I may always commit myſelf to thy care, and be ever ſatisfied with thy diſpoſal of me.

Teach me ſo to number my days, that I may apply my heart to

to true and heavenly wiſdom. Help me to live in a daily preparation for my great change, keeping my conſcience void of offence, both towards thee, and towards men; and grant that I may be always ſo employed, as I ſhall wiſh I had been when I come to die; that whenſoever thou ſhalt think fit to call me out of this world, I may readily and thankfully exchange it for a better.

Take me, I beſeech thee, into thy gracious protection this night. Preſerve me, if it be thy good will, in health and ſafety, and grant me that reſt which may refreſh my body and mind the enſuing day.

I heartily deſire the good of all mankind, and pray unto thee for purity, the peace, and the enlargement of thy holy church; for thy direction and aſſiſtance of all its governors and paſtors, particularly thoſe under whoſe guidance I am placed; for the welfare of my

country; for a bleſſing upon the king, and all in authority under him; for the relief and comfort of all that are in affliction; for all my friends and relations; beſeeching thee to hear and accept me, and all that call upon thee, in the name of Jeſus Chriſt, our only Lord and Saviour, who hath taught me thus to pray:

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

# PRIVATE AND FAMILY

# PRAYERS, &c.

## *A ſeaſonable* INTRODUCTION.

PUBLIC and *private prayers* and thankſgiving are an *homage* and duty, which all men owe to God as their *Creator*, their Lord and King;—and by which they are to acknowledge their obedience to, and their dependence upon him, for life and breath, and all things which they either enjoy or hope for.

This, therefore, God hath made our indiſpenſable duty:—And it will be a *downright rebellion*, for any man to refuſe this homage any day of his life;—the wilful neglect of this being, in effect, to diſown his *power* over us,—his *goodneſs* to help us in our neceſſities,—and his *juſtice* to puniſh ſuch as tranſgreſs his commands;—and to queſtion the faithfulneſs of his *promiſe* to pardon the truly penitent ſinner, and to reward all ſuch as ſincerely ſtrive to pleaſe him.

This neglect and diſobedience is very often puniſhed by God's leaving men to themſelves, and to their own wicked choices; which ever did, and ever will, end in their ruin,

ruin, very often in this world, but always in the world to come, without a miracle of grace, which ſuch ſinners have no reaſon to hope for.

The reaſons of this are plain;—The conſtant and wilful omiſſion of this duty is a ſure way to loſe the knowledge and remembrance of God, of his word and promiſes: And then men will have no motives to fear or to love God, nor any reaſon to hope for any good from him.

It will alſo very naturally lead ſuch people to depend upon themſelves only,—to forget their own ſad condition and miſery;—that they are liable to God's wrath, and even to damnation; which knowledge is neceſſary, and for this end was revealed, even to awaken and humble ſinners, that by a true repentance they may eſcape the bitter pains of eternal miſery.

Now the ſpirit of God threatens us, that ſuch as *will not retain God in their knowledge*, (which can be done only by praying to him daily) *ſhall be given up by God to a reprobate mind*, that is, *to a mind void of judgment*;—to do what is right in their own eyes, let what will follow.

And the event will certainly be this:——They will fall under the power and government of Satan, and his evil angels, who will lead them, as he did the heathen world, to *commit all iniquity with greedineſs*, till they are fit for no place but hell.

Now if theſe are truths of the Goſpel, as moſt ſurely they are, one would hope, there would

would need no other words, to perſuade every one who is in his right mind, and not already in the ſad condition before mentioned, to beg of God to keep him by his grace, from falling into ſo dreadful circumſtances.

The moſt ſure way to avoid this, will be to dedicate ſome time every day of our lives to the worſhip of God (for his glory, and our own happineſs): Humbly to acknowledge our dependence upon him;—to confeſs our own weakneſs to help and govern ourſelves;—to beg pardon for having offended him;—to pray for his grace and protection, and bleſſing;—and to give him thanks for his mercies and favours to us.

By doing this, *we ſhall retain God in our knowledge:*—This will be a true and ſolid foundation of peace, and comfort, and happineſs; provided it be performed out of a deep ſenſe of our own wants and miſeries;—with a firm faith in God's promiſes, *to fulfil the deſires of thoſe that fear him*;—and with an eye to the blood of Jeſus our Redeemer, for whoſe ſake, and through whoſe ſufferings we are reconciled to God, and God to us.

The following devotions are here added, that they who ſtand in need of ſuch helps, may be directed what to pray for, *every morning* and *evening* of their lives. Not but that every ſerious Chriſtian will find occaſion to aſk many more favours and bleſſings, than can be ſet down in any form of prayer whatever.

For this reaſon there are added, after every prayer, ſome ſhort inſtructions, as alſo proper texts of holy ſcripture, with ſhort meditations

tations upon them, to help the devotion of ſuch as are well-diſpoſed, as alſo to lead them into a way of profiting at all times, by the holy ſcriptures heard or read by them or others, which, God knows, we all too often hear without being bettered by them.

---

*The* Duty *and* Benefit *of Morning* PRAYER *for any Perſon in private.*

VERY many are the evil conſequences of going without God into a world full of temptations and dangers, which of ourſelves we can neither foreſee nor eſcape.

Whoever conſiders this, and the infinite miſchiefs which may follow, will never venture abroad, without praying for God's *guidance*, *protection*, and *bleſſing*, *every morning of his life.*

## MORNING PRAYER.

BLESSED be the Lord for his mercies renewed unto me every morning; for my preſervation and refreſhment, and for all the bleſſings of the night paſt, for which all thanks and glory be to thee, my God and Father.

Gracious God, continue to me theſe and all other thy bleſſings, ſo long, and in ſuch a meaſure,

as

as ſhall be moſt for thy glory and my ſalvation.

Poſſeſs my ſoul, I beſeech thee, with a true and ſaving faith, and with a ſenſe of thy goodneſs to me, and of my dependence upon thee, that it may be my delight, as it is my intereſt and duty, to ſerve and obey thee.

But that I may ſerve thee with a quiet mind, forgive me all my ſins, I beſeech thee, for thy dear Son's ſake, and with-hold the judgments which my conſcience is afraid of.

Keep it in the heart of thy ſervant, that it is an evil thing and bitter, to *forſake and offend the Lord.* And above all things, *keep me from wilful and deliberate ſins*, that I may never *grieve thy holy ſpirit*, nor provoke thee to leave me to myſelf.

Let thy reſtraining grace preſerve me from the temptations of the *world*, *the fleſh*, *and the devil*; that I may fall into no ſin, nor run

run into any kind of danger: But that all my doings may be ordered by thee, to do always that which is righteous in thy ſight; and that I may live and act as having thee, O God, the conſtant witneſs of all my thoughts, deſigns, words, and actions.

May I never render myſelf, by new ſins, unworthy thy guidance and protection! Suffer me not to go aſtray, or bring me back by ſuch ways as to thee ſhall ſeem meet.

May I love thee with all my heart, and all mankind for thy ſake! And may I ever have this ſure proof of thy love abiding in me, that I ſtudy to pleaſe thee, and to keep thy commandments! And that I may forgive, and love, and do good to my neighbours, as becomes a diſciple of Jeſus Chriſt!

Aſſiſt me, by thy grace, faithfully to perform all the duties of my calling; and thankfully to receive, and patiently to bear, whatever

ever thy providence ſhall order for me.

Preſerve me from an idle and uſeleſs life; ever remembering—*That the night cometh when no man can work;* and that *now* is the time in which to provide for eternity.

And grant, O Lord, that no worldly pleaſure, or worldly buſineſs, may ever make me loſe the ſight of death.

And may the thoughts of death oblige me to be truly and ſincerely good;---to mortify all pride and vanity, covetouſneſs, hatred, envy, and malice;---to be ſerious, ſober, and watchful, while I continue in this ſtate of trial.

Hear me, O heavenly Father, not according to my imperfect petitions, but according to the *full meaning* of that holy prayer, which thy only Son hath taught us, in compaſſion to our infirmities:

*Our Father, &c.*

## Some ſhort MEDITATIONS, for ſuch as are well-diſpoſed, and have Time to ſpare.

John xvi. 23. *Verily I ſay unto you, Whatſoever you ſhall aſk the Father in my name, he will give it you.*

EVERY thing is promiſed to this duty, when we pray as we ought to do; *i. e.*—In the name and through the merits of Jeſus Chriſt;—Out of a ſenſe of our own wants and miſeries;—With the humility of ſinful creatures;—And with a full purpoſe of doing what we know will pleaſe God.

O Lord, vouchſafe me theſe diſpoſitions, that I may never aſk thee any thing in vain, or render myſelf unworthy to receive thy bleſſings.

Prov. iii. 5, 6. *Lean not unto thine own underſtanding; in all thy ways acknowledge God, and he ſhall direct thy paths.*

Do thou, O God, direct my paths, and teach me to guide my affairs with *charity*, *diſcretion*, *juſtice* and *piety*.—Shew me the way that I ſhould walk in, and give me grace to follow the conduct of thy good ſpirit, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt.

1 Cor. xv. 33. *Evil communications corrupt good manners.*

No man muſt ſay that he has any reſpect for God, or fear for himſelf, who chooſeth the converſation of wicked men.—Their idle and

and profane diſcourſes will leave evil impreſſions upon the mind. Their indecent freedoms with the name of God, and things ſacred, will leſſen the reverence we owe to the divine Majeſty. Their filthy and lewd talk will deſtroy modeſty, and every grace and virtue, and will not fail to wear off the thoughts and fears of what may come hereafter.—May thy grace, O God, keep me from a converſation ſo diſpleaſing to thee, and ſo deſtructive to the ſouls of men; grant this for Chriſt's ſake!

1 Peter i. 17. *Paſs the time of your ſojourning here in fear.*

Give me, O God, this moſt neceſſary and moſt uſeful fear and dread of the unfaithfulneſs of my own heart. Make me ever mindful of my infirmities and failings, that I may be more watchful over myſelf, and more earneſt in my prayers for the help of thy grace, for the time to come.

---

*The Duty and Benefit of* Evening Prayer *for a* Perſon in Private.

SLEEP, ſaid a great man, *is ſo like death, that I dare not truſt it without ſaying my prayers.* And indeed, for fear of the worſt, a thoughtful Chriſtian will take care to make his peace with God, before he goes to ſleep; and put himſelf under God's protection, *every evening of his life*, that he may be ſafe from the fear of evil.

## EVENING PRAYER.

I Give thee thanks, O God, that it hath pleaſed thee to add another day to the years of my life; and that none of thy judgments, to which for my ſins I am juſtly liable, have fallen upon me.

Accept, O Lord, of my unfeigned thanks, for this thy conſtant care over me; for delivering me from the dangers of an evil world; and for the many and undeſerved bleſſings beſtowed upon me, day after day.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that my ſins and ingratitude have not hindered thee from bringing me ſafe to the evening of this day!

O Lord, infinite in mercy, pardon my ſins of the day paſt, which through my frailty I have committed; and grant that they may never riſe up in judgment againſt me.

Prepare me, I beſeech thee, for the continuance of thy favours, by

by giving me the grace of a true repentance, and of a ſincere converſation.

Make me truly ſenſible of the weakneſs, and the corruption of my nature; and the need I have of thy gracious help, that I may pray for it continually.

May I ever make a good uſe of the time which thy goodneſs ſhall yet vouchſafe me; not daring to abuſe thy patience and long-ſuffering!

Make me ever ſenſible of my latter end, that death may never overtake me unprepared. And in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, good Lord, deliver me.

O God, all-powerful, take me this night under thy protection: Give thy holy angels charge concerning me:---Preſerve me from the powers of darkneſs, and from the dangers of the night:---And by thy grace and providence, bring me at laſt to a bleſſed end; that I

may die in peace, and reſt in hope, and riſe in glory, through Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe name, and according to the full meaning of that holy prayer which he hath taught us, I moſt humbly beſeech thee to hear me, for myſelf, and for all Chriſtian people.

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

## Short MEDITATIONS for ſuch as have Time and are well-diſpoſed.

Eph. iv. 26. *Let not the ſun go down upon your wrath.*

LORD, grant that I may lie down to ſleep with the ſame charitable diſpoſitions with which I deſire to die. I beſeech thee for all that are my enemies;—not for judgment and vengeance, but for *thy mercy*; for *their* pardon and converſion, and for their eternal happineſs.

Heb. iii. 7, 8. *To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

This is the day, and this the life, in which God ſpeaks to us in mercy. Lord, grant that I may not harden my heart againſt this truth; nor let ſlip this day of thy patience; that neither the cares nor the pleaſures of this life may ever make me forget, that this is the day on which my ſalvation depends, ſo far, that I know not whether I ſhall have another.

Rev. iii. 3. *Thou ſhalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.*

Let me give credit to thee, O God, Lord of truth, and not to my own corrupt heart, which would flatter me, that I may have time and warning ſufficient to prepare for death! But give me grace, O Lord, to be prepared

prepared for that *unknown hour*, by a ſpeedy repentance, a true converſion, and an holy life.

Mat. xvi. 26. *What is man profited, if he ſhall gain the whole world, and loſe his own ſoul?*

How many do live without thinking of this! We admire, and we envy thoſe who get great eſtates, for themſelves and for their children; making their riches their delight, their happineſs, and the whole concern and buſineſs of their lives.

Lord, deliver thy ſervant from ſuch a blindneſs, as muſt end in my everlaſting ruin, and in the loſs of my ſoul, for which the whole world cannot make me amends.

Luke xiii. 7, 8. *Behold, theſe three years, I come ſeeking fruit on this fig-tree, and find none. Cut it down, why cumbereth it the ground? Lord, let it alone this year alſo: If it bear fruit, well; if not, then, after that, thou ſhalt cut it down.*

I adore thy wonderful patience, O God, towards me; and thy merciful interceſſion, O Jeſus, with thy Father for ſparing me: May his goodneſs and long-ſuffering lead me to repentance! And may thy all-powerful grace enable me to bring forth fruits anſwerable to amendment of life, and worthy of thy future care!

# A MORNING PRAYER FOR A FAMILY.

Joſh. xxiv. 15. *As for me, and my houſe, we will ſerve the Lord.*——

THIS ought to be the ſincere reſolution and practice of every Chriſtian maſter of a family. Without this, none can reaſonably expect to have dutiful children, or faithful ſervants; nor juſtly hope to have God's bleſſing in this world, nor in the world to come.

*Let one devoutly read or ſay what followeth, the reſt of the family ſeriouſly attending.*

THE Lord hath brought us ſafe to the beginning of this day: Let us give him thanks for this, and for all his mercies.

Let

Let us pray that we may live in the fear of God, and continue in love and charity with our neighbours.

That his holy ſpirit may direct and rule our hearts, teaching us what to do, and what to avoid.

That the grace of God may ever be with us, to ſupport us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations.

That the Lord may bleſs all our honeſt endeavours, and make us content with what his providence ſhall order us; and that we may continue his faithful ſervants this day, and all the days of our life.

For all which bleſſings let us devoutly pray.

*Then, all devoutly kneeling, let one ſay,*

O GOD, by whom the world is governed and preſerved, we give thee humble thanks for thy fatherly care over us; beſeeching thee to give us true repentance, to pardon our ſins,---to make

make us truly ſenſible of thy mercies, and thankful for them.

Give us grace, that we may walk as in thy ſight;---make a conſcience of our ways;---and, fearing to offend thee, may never fall into the ſins we have repented of.

Enable us to reſiſt and overcome the temptations of the world, the fleſh, and the devil;---to follow the motions of thy good ſpirit;---to be ſerious and holy in our lives;---true and juſt in our dealings;--watchful over our thoughts, words, and actions;---diligent in our buſineſs, and temperate in all things.

Give us grace honeſtly to improve all the talents which thou haſt committed to our truſt; and may no *worldly buſineſs*, no *worldly pleaſures*, divert us from the concerns of the life to come!

May thy bleſſing be upon our perſons, upon our labours, upon our ſubſtance, and upon all that belongs to us! And may we never

ver undertake any work, which we dare not beg of thee to proſper!

By thy grace defend us in all aſſaults of our enemies:—And grant that this day we fall into no ſin, neither run into any kind of dangers:—But that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in thy ſight.

Give us, gracious God, what is needful for us, and grace not to abuſe thy favours:—Give us, we beſeech thee, contented minds; and make us ever mindful of the wants of others.

Give us, in this world, the knowledge of thy truth; and, in the world to come, life everlaſting. *Amen.*

Hear us, O merciful God, not according to our imperfect petitions but according to the full meaning of that form of prayer which Jeſus Chriſt hath taught us, and for his ſake.

*Our*

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and the love of God, and the fellowſhip of the Holy Ghoſt, be with us evermore. *Amen.*

---

*On* Sunday *Morning, let the following be added to your daily Prayers.*

O LORD, to whoſe honour and ſervice this good day is conſecrated, give us grace ſo to obſerve it, that it may be the beginning of a happy week to us; and that none of thy judgments may fall upon us for profaning it. Fix in our

hearts this great truth, *That here we have no abiding place*; that we may ſeriouſly and timely provide for another life:---And grant, that this great concern may make us very deſirous to learn our duty, and do what thou requireſt of us. And bleſſed be God, that we have churches to go to;---that we have time to glorify our Creator, and that we have paſtors to teach us our duty. The Lord proſper their labours, and give us grace to profit by them; that they and we may enjoy an everlaſting ſabbath, with thy ſaints, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake. *Amen.*

## Proper MEDITATIONS for ſuch as have Time and are well-diſpoſed.

Pſal. cxxvii. 1. *Except the Lord build the Houſe, they labour in vain that build it.*

UNHAPPY and blind are they, who expect to proſper without thy bleſſing, O Lord.—I do therefore beg thy bleſſing upon *myſelf* and *family*, my *labours* and *ſubſtance*. And may I never hinder thy bleſſings, by undertaking any work which may diſhonour thee, or my Chriſtian profeſſion! Fit us, O Lord, by thy grace, *for that houſe not made with hands, eternal in the heavens*, prepared for them that love and fear thee.

Hab. ii. 9. *Woe be to him that coveteth an evil covetouſneſs to his houſe, that he may ſet his neſt on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil!*

Deliver us, O God, from *covetouſneſs, the root of all evil*;—which leads men to truſt in themſelves,—to forget their dependence upon thee;—and fooliſhly to hope to be out of the reach of misfortunes, and thoſe evils and afflictions which are deſigned in great mercy for the puniſhment of ſin, and for the ſalvation of ſinners.—Preſerve us, O Lord, from this too common, but damnable ſin of covetouſneſs, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake. *Amen.*

Luke xvii. 26, 27, 28, 29. *As it was in the days of Noah and of Lot—They did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded: till the day that Lot went out of Sodom, when they were all destroyed.*

Lord, open our eyes before we are surprised by death, as these miserable sinners were in the days of *Noah* and *Lot*.—May this be a warning to us!—And keep us, by thy grace, from setting our hearts too eagerly upon the *business*, the *cares*, or *pleasures* of this life, without considering how soon and suddenly we may be called out of it;—*and that day overtake us unawares.*

Col. iv. 1. *Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal, knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.*

O heavenly Master, bless me with good and faithful servants:—And grant that I may perform all the duties of a Christian master; that I may have a tender concern for the welfare both of their bodies and souls, and be an example to them of sobriety, justice, and piety! and that we may be an household fearing God.—And may thy blessing be upon them, and upon all my affairs committed to their trust, for the sake of thy beloved Son!

## Parents for Children.

Eph. vi. 4. *Ye parents, bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, for hi ſake bleſs my children with healthful bodies, underſtanding ſouls, and ſanctified ſpirits, that they may remember their Creator all their days. Let thy grace preſerve them from the temptations of an evil world, and may I never be wanting in any part of my duty to them. But inſtruct them in the faith and duties of a Chriſtian life; convince them of their faults, and correct them in reaſon and love. O be thou, O God, their father and their portion in this world, and in the world to come. *Amen.*

# AN

# EVENING PRAYER

# FOR A FAMILY.

*Let one of the family read or ſay diſtinctly what followeth, the reſt ſeriouſly attending.*

BY the favour of God, we are come to the evening of this day; and we are ſo much nearer our latter end.

Let us ſeriouſly conſider this, and pray to God to prepare us for the hour of death

Let us, with penitent hearts, beſeech him to pardon our offences, and to deliver us from the evils which they have deſerved.

Let us reſolve to amend whatever we have done amiſs, and pray God,

God, that his grace may keep us from returning to thoſe ſins which we have repented of.

And that we may be ſafe under his protection, who alone can defend us from the powers of darkneſs.

For all which bleſſings let us devoutly pray.

*Then all devoutly kneeling, let one diſtinctly ſay,*

O LORD, and heavenly Father, we acknowledge thy great goodneſs to us, in ſparing us when we deſerve puniſhment; in giving us the neceſſaries of this life, and in ſetting before us the happineſs of a better.

O merciful God, pardon our offences, correct and amend what is amiſs in us, that as we grow in years we may grow in grace, and the nearer we come to our latter end, the better we may be prepared for it.

*In the midſt of life we are in death.*

Lord,

Lord, grant that theſe thoughts may make us careful how we live, that we may eſcape the bitter pains of eternal death.

Take from us all ignorance, hardneſs of heart, and too much carefulneſs for the things of this life.

Make us an houſhold fearing thee, O God, ſubmitting ourſelves to thy good pleaſure, and putting our whole truſt in thy mercy.

Give us a true knowledge of ourſelves; of the corruption of our nature; and of the neceſſity of thy help and grace to ſave us from ruin.

And may the ſpirit of Chriſt ever live and rule in us, poſſeſſing our ſouls with a ſincere love of thee, O God, with a deſire to pleaſe thee, and with a dread of offending thee.

Sanctify us wholly, we beſeech thee, that our ſpirits, and ſouls, and bodies, may be preſerved blameleſs

blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

Continue to us, and to all Chriſtian churches, the means of grace and ſalvation; and may the ſaving truths of the Goſpel be publiſhed and received in all the world.

Vouchſafe unto us an intereſt in all the prayers of thy holy church, which have this day been offered to the throne of grace.

Forgive all that have injured us, and forgive our many offences againſt our neighbour.

Bleſs, we beſeech thee, O God, all thoſe whom thy providence hath ſet over us, whether in church or ſtate. And give us grace to honour and obey them for conſcience-ſake.

Defend us from all adverſities which may happen to our bodies, and from all evil thoughts which may aſſault and hurt our ſouls; and prepare us to receive, with an humble

humble reſignation, whatever thy providence ſhall think beſt for us.

And, finally, we beſeech thee to give us grace, that we may lead and end our lives in thy faith and fear, and to thy glory, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear us, O merciful God, for ourſelves, and for all mankind; not according to our weak underſtandings, but according to the full meaning of that holy prayer, which thy beloved Son hath taught us,

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

The

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and the love of God, and the fellowſhip of the Holy Ghoſt, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

---

## PRAYER for *Sunday Evening.*

*On* Sunday *Evening, the following may be added to our daily Prayers.*

ALMIGHTY God, by whom all things were made and are preſerved, give us grace to glorify thee, for thy wonderful works of the creation;—for thine adorable providence in preſerving every thing that thou haſt made; and for thine infinite power, wiſdom, and goodneſs, in the government of the world. But above all, we acknowledge thine infinite love in the redemption of the world, by thy Son our Lord Jeſus Chriſt; and thy goodneſs in ſending by him this comfortable meſ-

ſage

ſage to thy diſtreſſed creatures;---*That whoſoever receiveth and believeth in him, ſhall not periſh, but have everlaſting life.* We bleſs thee for his holy doctrine and example; and for his precious death, and glorious reſurrection, by which our ſad condition, and thine unſpeakable love, have been wonderfully ſhewn to us.---We give thee thanks for thy *holy word*, by which thy works of mercy and providence have been preſerved, and thy will made known unto mankind.——We bleſs thy holy name, for ſanctifying *one day in ſeven* to thy ſervice, to keep up the knowledge and remembrance of thee, and of our *creation* and *redemption*; and for appointing thy *miniſters* to publiſh theſe truths; and to bleſs thy people in thy name, that they may render unto thee that *honour*, *love*, and *obedience*, which becometh creatures to pay to their Creator. And we beſeech thee, O God, to give us all ſuch a deep

ſenſe

ſenſe of thy great and undeſerved mercies to us, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may glorify thee, not only with our *lips*, but in our *lives*, by giving up ourſelves to thy ſervice, and by walking before thee in holineſs and righteouſneſs all our days; and that as we often hear how we ought to walk and to pleaſe God, we may continue to do ſo unto our lives end, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## Select Scriptures, and Meditations upon them, which may teach us how to profit by reading the Scriptures.

Matth. x. 30. *The very hairs of your head are all numbered.*

LET this thy wonderful providence, O God, and care over us, be evermore our comfort and defence againſt the evils which may happen to our bodies, and all evil thoughts which may aſſault and hurt our ſouls;—againſt the diſtracting cares of this life;—againſt the fears and adverſities which may befal us. Thine infinite *wiſdom* knows all our wants and dangers;—thy fatherly *goodneſs* cannot but pity us;—thy *power* is able to help us; and thy *faithfulneſs* can never fail us. O! may we never render ourſelves unworthy of this thy divine protection!

Luke ix. 23. *Jeſus ſaid to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himſelf, and take up his croſs daily and follow me.*

O Jeſus, who haſt made this the rule and means of our ſalvation, enable us by thy *ſpirit*, thy *doctrine*, and *example*, to obſerve it daily;—to wean our hearts from a love and fondneſs of this world,—its pleaſures, profits, and all its idols; to mortify our corrupt affections, and to correct and amend what is amiſs in us;—to be meek, and humble, and tem-

temperate;—to ſubmit our wills to the will and law of God; to ſtudy to pleaſe him, and to ſeek his glory.—And grant, O Lord, that we may never lead heathens and unbelievers to think unworthy thoughts of Thee, and of thy religion, by our ungodly lives, while we pretend to be followers of Thee.

Luke xiii. 24. *Strive to enter in at the ſtrait gate; for many, I ſay unto you, will ſeek to enter in, and ſhall not be able.*

Lord, forbid that we ſhould flatter ourſelves, that the way to heaven and happineſs is eaſy, and that the generality of Chriſtian people are in the way of ſalvation, when thou haſt declared the contrary!—O! may thy ſpirit convince us, that our ſalvation is not to be ſecured without great concern, without labour, pains, and diligence! And that on theſe conditions, thy goodneſs will enable us to overcome all the difficulties we can poſſibly meet with!

Luke xi. 13. *If ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more ſhall your heavenly Father give* good things, *and his holy ſpirit, to them that aſk him?*

O heavenly Father, let it be unto us, according to this thy Son's moſt faithful promiſe. For his ſake, give us thy holy ſpirit, to live and act in us, to guide and aſſiſt us all our days, that we may aſk and be content with ſuch good things as it ſhall pleaſe thee to give

us.—And grant that we may never grieve thy holy ſpirit, never reject his godly motions, or render ourſelves unworthy of his abode with us, by living in any known ſin.

Rev. iii. 9. *As many as I love, I rebuke and chaſten.*

O! that we may acknowledge thy deſign and love, in all the diſpenſations of thy providence! Our corrupt nature will not let us ſee this:—It is thy grace alone which muſt convince us, that a Father ſo good would not ſuffer afflictions to fall upon his children without an abſolute neceſſity.—Convince us, therefore, O God, that we ſtand in need of thy rebukes, to awaken and amend us: And enable us to bear all the afflictions of this life with patience, and reſignation to thy wiſdom and goodneſs, and make them powerful means of our eternal ſalvation. *Amen.*

# A ſhort ADMONITION to all, and eſpecially to Maſters of Families.

AMONGST the many growing vices of this profane age, one wretched and ungodly cuſtom is too common; *viz.* of peoples falling to their meals, as beaſts to their fodder, without any thoughts of God, or thanks for his bleſſings.——And even too many of thoſe, who have not quite laid aſide this Chriſtian duty, perform it after ſuch a ſlight and negligent manner, as makes it as ſinful as the omiſſion.

When a man, like ourſelves, beſtows a favour, we naturally give him thanks.—— Are not food, and the ſupports of life and health, mighty bleſſings?—Is not God the ſole giver of theſe?—Are they not worth aſking, and giving thanks for?—This ſhews plainly, that this ſin, being againſt the very natural notions of ſenſe and gratitude, is of the devil, who makes the tables of too many to become a ſnare and a curſe to them, by intemperance, gluttony, and drunkenneſs.

All Chriſtians, who have any regard to the example of their Saviour, who always glorified God, and gave him public thanks for his bleſſings; or to the example of St *Paul*, who would not omit this duty, though in bonds, and in the preſence of a numerous company of heathens;—all Chriſtians, ſeeing

the reaſonableneſs of this duty, and the ſin of omitting it, or of not performing it after a ſerious manner, will be inexcuſable before God, if they neglect to glorify him at their daily meals.

Now, that the moſt unlearned may not want words to expreſs their thanks, and beg God's bleſſing upon themſelves, and their daily food, theſe following may be made uſe of.

## GRACE *before our Meals.*

O GOD, who giveſt food unto all fleſh, grant that we may receive theſe thy gifts, with thy bleſſing, and uſe them with ſobriety, and thankful hearts, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

## GRACE *after our Meals.*

BLESSED be the Lord, for providing ſo well for *us!* May his grace make us ever mindful of the wants of others, and give us the bread that nouriſheth to eternal life, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

*Or*

*Or this:*

MAKE us truly thankful, O Lord, for our daily bread, and for all other mercies which we receive: And help us to love and ſerve thee, the giver of all good, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake. *Amen.*

A

# MORNING PRAYER

## FOR A PERSON IN PRIVATE.

ALmighty and eternal God, who haſt created me after thine own image and likeneſs; who haſt made me capable of loving thee and enjoying thee eternally; I adore thee with all humility as my ſovereign Lord; give me, I beſeech thee, ſuch a ſenſe of thy infinite goodneſs, as to return unto thee all poſſible love and obedience.

O my God, upon whom all things depend, I acknowledge that I have nothing but what is the effect of thy bounty; bleſs the Lord, O my ſoul, and declare his loving-

loving-kindneſs to all generations. I humbly and heartily thank thee, for all the graces and favours thou haſt beſtowed upon me; for making me a rational creature, and for ſecuring my preſervation by the conſtant effects of thy providence; for redeeming me by the death of thy Son, and for providing the grace of thy holy ſpirit to ſanctify my corrupt nature; for bringing me to the knowledge of the Chriſtian religion; for bleſſing me with plentiful means of ſalvation, and for preparing a glorious inheritance for thoſe that love thee, and keep thy commandments; for the many temporal bleſſings thou haſt conferred upon me; for repairing the infirmities of my frail body with comfortable reſt and ſleep; for the preſervation of me this night, and the reſt of my life, from innumerable accidents and dangers. O! may I always delight to praiſe and glorify thy holy name,

and

and above all thy benefits to love thee, my great benefactor.

O Father of mercies, ſhut not up thy bowels of compaſſion towards me, a vile and miſerable ſinner; deſpiſe not the work of thine own hands, the purchaſe of my Saviour's blood. I moſt humbly implore the pardon and forgiveneſs of all my ſins, whether of omiſſion or commiſſion, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt thy only Son our Lord. I am heartily ſorry that I have offended thee; I deteſt my ſins, becauſe they are diſpleaſing to thee, who art infinite goodneſs; I am reſolved, by the aſſiſtance of thy grace, to return no more to folly, to avoid all occaſions of evil, and to live better for the time to come.

I dedicate to thee, O Lord, my body and ſoul, and all that I am; and becauſe through the weakneſs of my mortal nature I can do no good thing without thee, grant that all I ſhall do or ſuffer this day, by

by the help of thy grace, may tend to thy glory, and the ſalvation of my own ſoul.

Enlighten my mind with a true and thorough knowledge of my duty, and enable me by thy holy ſpirit to perform it with care and diligence: Make me ſenſible of my own vileneſs and corruption, and let me never want thy gracious aſſiſtance to correct and reform it. Let me frame a right judgment concerning the vanity and emptineſs of all tranſitory enjoyments, that they may never prevail upon me to tranſgreſs thy holy laws; but that by the contempt of them, I may fix my heart upon thoſe pleaſures, which are at thy right-hand for evermore. And grant that all the afflictions of this life which thou in thy wiſe providence ſhalt think fit to lay upon me, may turn to my ſpiritual profit and advantage; that I may bear them with patience and ſubmiſſion to thy holy will, and thereby learn greater

gratitude

gratitude to thy goodneſs for the mercies I enjoy. Let no anxious or ſolicitous cares ever diſorder or diſtract my mind, but let me truſt in thy providence to bleſs my honeſt diligence; being aſſured, that if I ſeek firſt the kingdom of God, and its righteouſneſs, all other things ſhall be added unto me.

Defend me by thy almighty power from all thoſe ſnares and temptations which continually ſolicit me to offend thee; and from all thoſe bodily dangers to which I am ſubject in this my pilgrimage here upon earth; that all my thoughts, words, and actions, may be ſo guided by thy holy ſpirit, that I may ever ſeek thy honour and glory, and that the main concern of my life may be, to fit and prepare myſelf for that everlaſting ſalvation thou haſt promiſed.

Keep me all this day in innocence, and in love to thee and all men: Let me manage all my temporal affairs with uprightneſs and integrity,

integrity, converſe with candour and affability; do thou direct my paths, and teach me to guide my affairs with diſcretion: but let not the purſuit of the things of this life, rob me of that time which ought to be employed in the concerns of my ſoul, nor divert me from the ſerious thoughts of the world to come; that walking faithfully before thee all my days, and being found watching when my appointed time ſhall come, I may from a life of righteouſneſs be tranſlated to a life of glory.

*On* Sunday, *inſtead of the above paragraph, ſay this:*

And now I am going to the place of thy public worſhip, let thy holy ſpirit aſſiſt me in the duty and ſervice I am about to perform; touch me with ſuch a ſenſe of thy preſence as may fix my wandering thoughts, compoſe my tumultuous affections, and ſtir up my flat and

cold desires, that I may be devout, serious, and attentive. Let me join in the prayers and praises of thy church with fervent and heavenly affections. Let me hear thy word with great attention, and with a resolution of mind to practise my duty; and whenever I approach thy table, let me shew forth humility and devotion, and all those holy desires which become the remembrance of a crucified Saviour. Let me ever esteem it my privilege and happiness to have a day of rest set apart for thy service, and the concerns of my soul; and let me employ it to all those holy purposes thou hast appointed.

Extend, O Lord, thy pity and compassion to the whole race of mankind: Enlighten the Gentile world with the knowledge of thy truth, and bring into thy flock thy ancient people the Jews, and let all who name the name of Christ depart from all iniquity. Be gracious to thy holy catholic church: Grant

Grant that ſhe may always preſerve that doctrine and diſcipline which thou haſt appointed, and that the gates of hell may never prevail againſt her. Grant, O Lord, that all my governors in church and ſtate may be uſeful and ſerviceable to thy glory, and the public good, remembering the great account they muſt one day give. Be merciful to all that are in affliction or diſtreſs, that labour under poverty or perſecution, under bodily pains or diſeaſes, or under temptation or trouble of mind; be pleaſed to ſupport and comfort them, and in thy good time to deliver them, according to thy great mercy. Bleſs all my friends, relations, and acquaintance; thoſe that are in ſin, convert them; thoſe that are in grace, confirm and ſtrengthen them; thoſe that are in adverſity, comfort and relieve them; and thoſe that are in proſperity, ſuffer them not to forget thee. Unite us all, O God, to one

another by mutual love, and to thyſelf, by the conſtant practice of piety and holineſs.

Make me mindful of that time when I ſhall lie down in the duſt; and becauſe I know not the day nor the hour, when I ſhall be ſummoned to the great tribunal, let me be always upon my guard, and never live in ſuch a ſtate as I ſhall be afraid to die in; but that my daily care may be, to get my ſoul raiſed more and more into ſuch an holy, heavenly temper, ſuch delight in God, ſuch unſpotted purity, and fervent charity, as may beſt qualify and prepare me for the company of ſaints and angels in thy heavenly kingdom, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord, in whoſe bleſſed name and words I conclude my imperfect prayers, ſaying,

*Our Father, &c.*

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, the love of God, and the fellow-

fellowſhip of the Holy Ghoſt, be with me this day, henceforth and for evermore. *Amen.*

---

*A Prayer for a Perſon that daily works at his Trade, to be added to the former Prayer.*

ALmighty God, who in thy wiſe providence hath conſtituted ſeveral ranks and qualities of men, that they might mutually aſſiſt to the ſupport of each other: Teach me to be content with the ſtation wherein thou haſt been pleaſed to place me; grant that I may honeſtly and diligently diſcharge the duties of my calling; and without anxiety depend upon thy bleſſings for the ſucceſs of my lawful endeavours. That however contemptible my profeſſion may be in the eyes of men, my fidelity and induſtry may be acceptable in thy ſight: That they may bring

me in return a convenient ſubſiſtence for my family in this life; and in the next, the reward thou haſt promiſed to all thoſe that truly love and fear thee, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

# AN

# EVENING PRAYER

## FOR A PERSON IN PRIVATE.

MOST great and glorious Lord God! I deſire to proſtrate myſelf in all humility before thy divine majeſty, under a deep ſenſe of my own unworthineſs: With ſhame and ſorrow, and confuſion of face, I confeſs and acknowledge thy infinite mercy and goodneſs to me, and my own vileneſs and ingratitude to thee. I have, O Lord, abuſed thy gifts and bleſſings, deſpiſed thy goodneſs, neglected thy ſervice, preferred my paſſions and other creatures, before my duty, and thy commands.

I have neither believed in thee, O my God, nor obeyed thee, nor loved thee as I ought, and as I ſolemnly vowed I would. O Lord God, moſt gracious and reconcileable, pity and pardon me; I lament, O Lord, my deteſtable impiety, for having ſo long, and ſo often, and ſo obſtinately offended thee. I confeſs and will forſake my wickedneſs, and am ſorry for my ſins. It grieves me, O moſt amiable goodneſs, it grieves me that ever I offended thee; with all my heart, O my God, do I now renew the ſacred vow, which, alas! I have ſo often violated. I utterly renounce, O Lord, all things that may any way diſpleaſe thee; from them all, let it be thy good pleaſure to deliver me. I know, Lord, I cannot love thee but I muſt hate evil; and therefore I renounce and deteſt it. Turn thou me, O Lord God, and ſo ſhall I be turned; turn the whole ſtream of my affections from ſenſual love to the love

love of thee. O my God, let thy heavenly love be the conſtant bias of my ſoul: Oh, may it be the natural ſpring and weight of my heart, that it may always move towards thee. Father, I have ſinned againſt heaven, and in thy ſight, and am no more worthy to be called thy ſon; but I return with the prodigal: O let thy paternal bowels yearn over me, and for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake graciouſly receive me. Lord, accept of my imperfect repentance, and ſend thy ſpirit of adoption into my heart, to inſtil true filial affections, that I may again be owned by thee for thy child, and call thee father, and ſhare in the bleſſings of thy children, and at laſt become an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.

O my God, fill my ſoul with ſo entire reverential a love of thee, that I may love nothing but for thy ſake, or in ſubordination to thy love. Give me grace to ſtudy thy knowledge, that the more I know

know thee, the more I may love thee. Create in me a ſincere obedience to thy commands, a ſubmiſſive patience under all thy chaſtiſements, and an abſolute reſignation unto thy diſpoſals.

Make me, O Lord, ſo tender of thy honour, that I may ſhew a due regard to all the parts of thy worſhip: That I may always enter thy houſe with recollected thoughts, compoſed behaviour, becoming reverence, and ſincere intentions of love; that I may hear thy word with a ſerious attention and inflammable heart, and a particular application; that I may frequent the public prayers, and approach thy table with fervent and heavenly affections, and with holy impatience for the bleſſings of thy love. Give me grace for thy deareſt Son's ſake, to pay a ſuitable veneration to all ſacred perſons, or places, or things, which are thine by ſolemn dedication, and ſeparated for the uſes of divine love, and the communi-

cation

cations of thy grace, or which may promote the decency and order of thy worſhip, or the edification of faithful people.

May I ever, O Lord, have awful thoughts of thee; may I never mention thy venerable name, unleſs on ſolemn, juſt, and devout occaſions; may I never mention it on thoſe occaſions without acts of love and adoration O let it be the great buſineſs of my life, to love and glorify thy holy name, by all the poſſible ways I can; by my mouth, by my converſation, by my public confeſſion of thee before men, even to death, whenever thou art pleaſed to call me to it; by engaging all I can to glorify and love thee. Fix in my mind an habitual pure intention of thy glory in all my actions, that whether I eat or drink, or whatever I do, I may do all to the glory of thee, my God.

O Lord, let thy unwearied and tender love to me, make my love un-

unwearied and tender to my neighbour, and zealous to procure, promote, and preſerve his health and ſafety, happineſs and life; and ready to ſuccour and relieve, to comfort and reſcue, and pray for all, whom thy love, or their own neceſſities or miſeries, recommend to my charity. Make me peaceful and reconcileable, always ready to return good for evil, to repay injuries with kindneſs, and eaſy to forgive; unleſs in thoſe inſtances, where the impunity of the criminal would be injuſtice and cruelty to the public. Make me like thy own ſelf, all meekneſs and benignity, all goodneſs and ſweetneſs, all gentleneſs and long-ſuffering. And O thou lover of ſouls, let thy love raiſe in me a compaſſionate zeal to ſave the life, the eternal life, of ſouls, and by fraternal, and affectionate, and ſeaſonable advice, or exhortation, or reproof, to reclaim the wicked, to win them to love thee.

Create

Create in me, O Lord, a perfect abhorrence of all impurity, that I may purify myſelf, as thou, Lord, art pure. I know, O Lord, that I can never be partaker of the divine nature, unleſs I eſcape the pollution that is in the world through luſt. O do thou therefore cleanſe me from all filthineſs of fleſh and ſpirit, that I may perfect holineſs in thy fear. Give me grace to poſſeſs my veſſel in ſanctification and honour, and to keep thy temple holy, that thy ſpirit may always there inhabit. Give me grace, O Lord, to fly all incitements, opportunities or inſtruments of defiling either my neighbour or myſelf; to beat down my body, and to bring it into ſubjection: Let me live ever watching or praying, or profitably employed, that I may leave no room, if poſſible, for any unclean ſpirit to enter into my ſoul, and tempt me.

Lord, make me contented and thankful, and well pleaſed with

that portion thy wiſe providence has allotted me in this world, and to acquieſce in thy choice, as beſt for me. O let the world never more have place in my heart; all my affections I withdraw from that, to fix on thee.

Be pleaſed, O Lord, to take me into thy protection this night, and defend me from all the dangers of it; refreſh my body with ſuch comfortable reſt and ſleep, that in the morning, with my renewed vigour, I may be the better diſpoſed to do thee all faithful ſervice. Let not evil ſpirits or evil men approach to hurt me; let me lie down with holy thoughts of thee; and when I awake, let me be ſtill with thee.

*Add this paragraph on* SUNDAY *in the evening.*

" Pardon, O Lord, all theſe im-
" perfections that have accom-
" panied me this day, in my
" atten-

" attendance in thy houſe; for-
" give the deadneſs and dulneſs
" of my affections, the wanderings
" of my thoughts, and the diſ-
" tractions of my mind. Sanctify
" to me all thoſe means of grace,
" which, by thy bounty, I have
" this day been partaker of; and
" help me in the week follow-
" ing, to live according to my
" profeſſion and my prayers, ac-
" cording to the inſtructions and
" exhortations which I have re-
" ceived out of thy holy word;
" that my converſation may be as
" becometh the goſpel of Chriſt:
" Let me not abuſe theſe means
" by reſting in them, but let them
" bring forth the peaceable fruits
" of righteouſneſs."

Shew mercy, O Lord, to the whole world; let the goſpel of thy Son run, and be glorified throughout all the earth; let it be made known to heathens and infidels; and let it be obeyed by all that are

called Chriſtians. Be merciful to the nation wherein I live; grant that we may be ſo humbled and reformed, that we may be pardoned and ſpared. Multiply thy bleſſings upon our ſovereign, and all the royal family; give them grace to exceed others as much in goodneſs as in greatneſs, and make them ſignal inſtruments of thy glory, and of the public good. Be gracious to all thoſe that miniſter in holy things, that they may diligently watch over thoſe ſouls committed to their care, inſtructing them in ſaving knowledge, and guiding them by their own examples; praying for them, and bleſſing them, exerciſing ſpiritual diſcipline in thy church, and rightly and duly adminiſtring thy holy ſacraments. Viſit in mercy all the children of affliction; relieve all their particular neceſſities of body and mind, and lighten all their burdens; give them patience and ſubmiſſion to thy bleſſed will, and

in

in thy due time deliver them from all their troubles. Bleſs all my friends and relations; let them firſt ſeek the kingdom of God and its righteouſneſs, and then let all other things be added unto them.

Adored be thy goodneſs, O Lord, in thoſe mercies, both temporal and ſpiritual, which thou from time to time haſt beſtowed upon me; that thou haſt ſupported my body with the good things of this life, and that thou haſt prepared for my ſoul the happineſs of the next; particularly, I deſire to offer to thee my humble and hearty thanks for thy preſervation of me the day paſt from innumerable accidents and dangers: If I have eſcaped any ſin, it is the effect of thy reſtraining grace; if I have avoided any danger, it was thy hand directed me; and to thy holy name for both be given all glory and praiſe. Let the ſenſe of all thy bleſſings have this effect upon me, to make me better, and to

lead me to repentance. And all this I beg for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake; in whoſe bleſſed name and words I continue to pray, ſaying,

*Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, &c.

A

# MORNING PRAYER

## FOR A FAMILY.

ALmighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy ſervants do give thee moſt humble and hearty thanks, for all thy goodneſs and loving-kindneſs to us and to all men. We bleſs thee for our creation, preſervation; particularly, that thou haſt vouchſafed to deliver us from all the perils and dangers of the night paſt, and for all the bleſſings of this life: But above all for thine ineſtimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jeſus Chriſt; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beſeech

ſeech thee to give us that due ſenſe of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may ſhew forth thy praiſe, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourſelves to thy ſervice, and by walking before thee in holineſs and righteouſneſs all our days.

We acknowledge, O Lord, that our many great and crying ſins, have rendered us unworthy of any of thy favours; but, O almighty and everlaſting God, who hateſt nothing that thou haſt made, and doſt forgive the ſins of all them that are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our ſins, and acknowledging our wretchedneſs, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remiſſion and forgiveneſs. Raiſe up thy power and come among us, and with great might ſuccour us; that whereas through our ſins and wickedneſs, we are ſore let and hindered

in

in running the race that is ſet before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may ſpeedily help and deliver us. And thou, O God, who knoweſt us to be ſet in the midſt of ſo many and great dangers, that by reaſon of the frailty of our natures we cannot always ſtand upright, grant to us ſuch ſtrength and protection, as may ſupport us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations.

Give unto us, O Lord, the aſſiſtance of thy holy ſpirit, that for the time to come we may think and do always ſuch things as be rightful; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; that thy grace may always ſo prevent and follow us, as to make us continually to be given to all good works.

Graft in our hearts the love of thy name, increaſe in us true religion, nouriſh us with all goodneſs,

neſs, and of thy great mercy keep us in the ſame; and thou, O God, whoſe never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth, put from us, we beſeech thee, all hurtful things, and give us thoſe things which are profitable for us. And ſince it is thou alone canſt order the unruly wills and affections of ſinful men, grant that we may love the things which thou commandeſt, and deſire that which thou doſt promiſe, that ſo among the ſundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may ſurely there be fixed where true joys are to be found. Diſpoſe us, by all the means of grace we enjoy, to attain that everlaſting ſalvation thou haſt promiſed, that we may both perceive thoſe things which we ought to do, and may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the ſame.

Teach us, O Lord, ſo to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wiſdom; and grant

grant that neither the ſplendor of any thing that is great, nor the conceit of any thing that is good in us, may any way withdraw our eyes from looking upon ourſelves as ſinful duſt and aſhes; but that we may preſs forward towards the prize of the high calling that is before us, with faith and patience, with humility and meekneſs, with mortification and ſelf-denial, with charity and conſtant perſeverence unto the end; that ſo when we ſhall depart this life, we may ſleep in the Lord; and at the general reſurrection in the laſt day, may be found acceptable in thy ſight, and receive that bleſſing which thy beloved Son ſhall then beſtow upon all thoſe that truly love and ſerve thee.

Charge thy holy providence, O Almighty God, we beſeech thee, with us this day; and vouchſafe to direct, ſanctify, and govern both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of thy laws, and in the works

works of thy commandments, that through thy moſt mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preſerved in body and ſoul, through our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.

*Add this paragraph on* SUNDAYS.

" Almighty and merciful God, " of whoſe only gift it cometh " that thy faithful people do unto " thee true and laudable ſervice; " grant, we beſeech thee, that we " may ſo ſpend this thy holy day " in the exerciſes of piety and de- " votion, that we may hear thy " word with ſo much attention, and " pray with ſo much fervor, that " we fail not finally to obtain thy " heavenly promiſes, through the " merits of Jeſus Chriſt our Lord."

We make our prayers and ſupplications to thee, O everlaſting God, in behalf of all mankind. We humbly beſeech thee to inſpire con-

continually the univerſal church, with the ſpirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all they that do confeſs thy holy name, may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love. We beſeech thee alſo to ſave and defend all Chriſtian kings, princes, and governors; eſpecially thy ſervant our ſovereign. Grant that all inferior magiſtrates may truly and indifferently miniſter juſtice, to the puniſhment of wickedneſs and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all biſhops and curates, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, ſet forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly adminiſter thy holy ſacraments.

And of thy great goodneſs, O Lord, comfort and ſuccour all them who, in this tranſitory life, are in trouble, ſorrow, need, ſickneſs, or any other adverſity. Look upon them with the eyes of thy

mercy, give them ſure truſt and confidence in thee, and in thy due time a happy iſſue out of all their afflictions. Aſſiſt all thoſe who draw near the time of their diſſolution; ſo fit and prepare them for the hour of death, that after their departure in peace, and in thy favour, they may be received into thy everlaſting kingdom, through the merits and mediation of thy only Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe bleſſed name and words we conclude our imperfect prayers, ſaying,

*Our Father, &c.*

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, the love of God, and the fellowſhip of the Holy Ghoſt, be with us this day, henceforth and for evermore. *Amen.*

AN

# EVENING PRAYER

## FOR A FAMILY.

ALmighty God, Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, maker of all things, Judge of all men; we acknowledge and bewail our manifold ſins and wickedneſſes which we from time to time moſt grievouſly have committed, by thought, word, and deed, againſt thy divine majeſty; provoking moſt juſtly thy wrath and indignation againſt us; We do earneſtly repent, and are heartily ſorry for theſe our miſdoings; and the remembrance of them is grievous unto us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, after thy great goodneſs, according to the multitude of thy mercies do away our offences; waſh us thoroughly from our wickedneſs, and cleanſe us from our ſins. Spare all thoſe who confeſs their ſins unto thee, that they whoſe conſciences by ſin are accuſed, by thy merciful pardon may be abſolved; and grant that we may ever hereafter ſerve and pleaſe thee in newneſs of life, to the honour and glory of thy name.

And thou, O God, who art the protector of all that truſt in thee, without whom nothing is ſtrong, nothing is holy, increaſe and multiply upon us thy mercy, that thou being our ruler and guide, we may ſo paſs through things temporal, that we finally loſe not the things eternal: And becauſe through the weakneſs of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that we may with-

withſtand the temptations of the world, the fleſh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds follow thee, the only God; and in keeping thy commandments, we may pleaſe thee both in will and deed.

O Lord, who haſt prepared for them that love thee, ſuch good things as paſs man's underſtanding, pour into our hearts ſuch love towards thee, that we loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promiſes, which exceed all that we can deſire. And thou, who haſt taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth, ſend thy Holy Ghoſt, and pour into our hearts that moſt excellent gift, the very bond of peace, and of all virtues, without which whoſoever liveth is counted dead before thee.

Grant us, O Lord, ſo perfectly and without all doubt, to believe in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, that our faith in thy ſight may never be reproved; that being not like chil-

dren, carried away with every blaſt of vain doctrine, we may be eſtabliſhed in the truth of thy holy goſpel; and knowing our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt to be the way, the truth, and the life, and following the ſteps of thy holy apoſtles, we may ſteadfaſtly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life: ſo that we who know thee now by faith, may, after this life, have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead. Grant that our hearts and all our members being mortified from all worldly and carnal luſts, and forſaking all covetous deſires, and inordinate love of riches, we may in all things obey thy bleſſed will, and continue Chriſt's faithful ſoldiers and ſervants to our lives end. And ſince thou haſt given us thy only begotten Son, to be unto us both a ſacrifice for ſin, and alſo an example of godly life, give us grace moſt thankfully to receive this thine ineſtimable benefit, and daily to endeavour ourſelves to follow the

the bleſſed ſteps of his moſt holy life.

Grant, O Lord, that as we are baptized into the death of thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, ſo by continually mortifying our corrupt affections, we may be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death, we may paſs to a joyful reſurrection: Beſeeching thee, that it may pleaſe thee, of thy gracious goodneſs, ſhortly to accompliſh the number of thine elect, and to haſten thy kingdom; that we with all others already departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect conſummation and bliſs, both in body and ſoul, in thy eternal and everlaſting glory.

*Add this paragraph on* SUNDAYS.

" O God, we beſeech thee mer-
" cifully to receive thoſe prayers
" which we have this day offered
" up to thee in the public congre-
gation,

" gation, and have compaſſion
" upon our infirmities, that our
" blindneſs and unworthineſs may
" not deprive us of the advan-
" tage of them. And grant, we
" beſeech thee, that we may in
" ſuch ways mark, learn, and in-
" wardly digeſt what we have
" this day heard, that by patience
" and comfort of thy holy word,
" we may embrace and ever hold
" faſt the bleſſed hope of everlaſt-
" ing life, which thou haſt given
" us in thy Son our Saviour Jeſus
" Chriſt."

We commit ourſelves, O Lord, this night to thy gracious protection; and thou who ſeeſt we have no power of ourſelves to help ourſelves, keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our ſouls, that we may be defended from all adverſities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may aſſault and hurt the ſoul.

O

O God, the creator and preſerver of all mankind, we humbly beſeech thee for all ſorts and conditions of men, that it may pleaſe thee to make thy ways known unto them, and thy ſaving health unto all nations. Let thy continual pity cleanſe and defend thy church; and becauſe it cannot continue in ſafety without thy ſuccour, preſerve it evermore by thy help and goodneſs. Receive our ſupplications and prayers, which we offer before thee for all eſtates of men in thy holy church, that every member of the ſame, in his vocation and miniſtry, may truly and godly ſerve thee.

Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodneſs, all thoſe who are any ways afflicted or diſtreſſed in mind, body, or eſtate: That it may pleaſe thee to comfort and relieve them according to their ſeveral neceſſities, giving them patience under all their ſufferings, and a hap-

a happy iſſue out of all their afflictions.

We beſeech thee mercifully, O Lord, to incline thine ears to us, that have made now our prayers and ſupplications unto thee; and grant that thoſe things that we have faithfully aſked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our neceſſities, and to the ſetting forth of thy glory, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord; in whoſe bleſſed name and words we conclude our imperfect devotions, ſaying,

*Our Father, &c.*

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, &c.

# CONTENTS.


PAGE

BISHOP Gibſon's addreſs to the inhabitants of the Pariſh of Lambeth 1
——— Exhortation to family prayer 7
——— Morning prayer for a family 25
——— Evening prayer for a family 33
——— Morning prayer for a perſon in private — — — — 41
——— Evening prayer for a perſon in private — — — 49
——— Morning prayer for children 58
——— Evening prayer for children 60
——— Morning prayer for ſervants 63
——— Evening prayer for ſervants 65
Morning prayer for a family, from the author of the Great Importance of a religious Life — —— 69
Evening prayer for a family, from the ſame 77
Morning prayer for a perſon in private, from the ſame —— —— 86
Evening prayer for a perſon in private, from the ſame —— —— 95
A prayer to be added to the daily evening prayer on the Lord's day, from the ſame —— —— — 103
A morning prayer for a young perſon, from the ſame —— —— 106
An evening prayer for a young perſon, from the ſame —— — 110
Bp. Wilſon's ſeaſonable introduction to private and family prayer 115


Bp. Wil-

PAGE

Bp. Wilſon's duty and benefit of morning prayer — — — 118
——— Morning prayer for a perſon in private —— —— ib.
——— Meditations on ſelect texts of ſcripture —— —— 122
——— Duty and benefit of evening prayer — — — 123
——— Evening prayer for a perſon in private — — — 124
——— Meditations on ſelect texts of ſcripture — — — 127
——— Morning prayer for a family 129
——— Prayer for Sunday morning 133
——— Meditations on ſelect texts of ſcripture —— —— 135
——— Parents for children —— 137
——— Evening prayer for a family 138
——— Prayer for Sunday evening 143
——— Select ſcriptures and meditations 146
——— Short admonition to all maſters of families —— —— 149
——— Grace before our meals — 150
——— Grace after our meals — ib.
——— Another — —— 151
Morning prayer for a perſon in private, from Nelſon's Practice of true Devotion.
Prayer for a perſon that daily works at his trade, from the ſame 161
Evening prayer for a perſon in private, from the ſame — — 163
Morning prayer for a family, from the ſame — — 175
Evening prayer for a family, from the ſame — — 183

PAGE
118
ib.
122
123
124
127
129
133
135
137
138
143
s 146
149
150
ib.
151
161
163
175
183

# ON PRAYER.

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
Uttered or unexpressed,
The motion of a hidden fire,
That trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye,
When none but God is near.

Prayer is the simplest form of speech,
That infant lips can try;
Prayer the sublimest strains that reach
The Majesty on high.

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christian's native air,
His watch-word at the gates of death,
He enters Heaven with Prayer.

Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice,
Returning from his ways,
While Angels in their songs rejoice,
And say, "Behold, he prays."

The Saints in Prayer appear as one,
In word, in deed, in mind,
When with the Father and the Son
Their fellowship they find.

Nor Prayer is made on earth alone,
The Holy Spirit pleads,
And Jesus, on the eternal throne,
For sinners intercedes.

O! Thou, by whom we come to God,
The life, the truth, the way;
The path of Prayer Thyself hast trod,
Lord teach us how to pray.

MONTGOMERY.